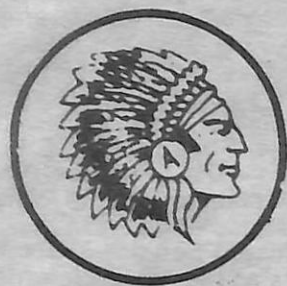


• Berkshire Power's 4th Annual "Tree Day"

Sunday, April 25th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (see Page 29 for more information).



AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

CAR-RT SORT***
Central Library
Cooper St.
Agawam MA 01001

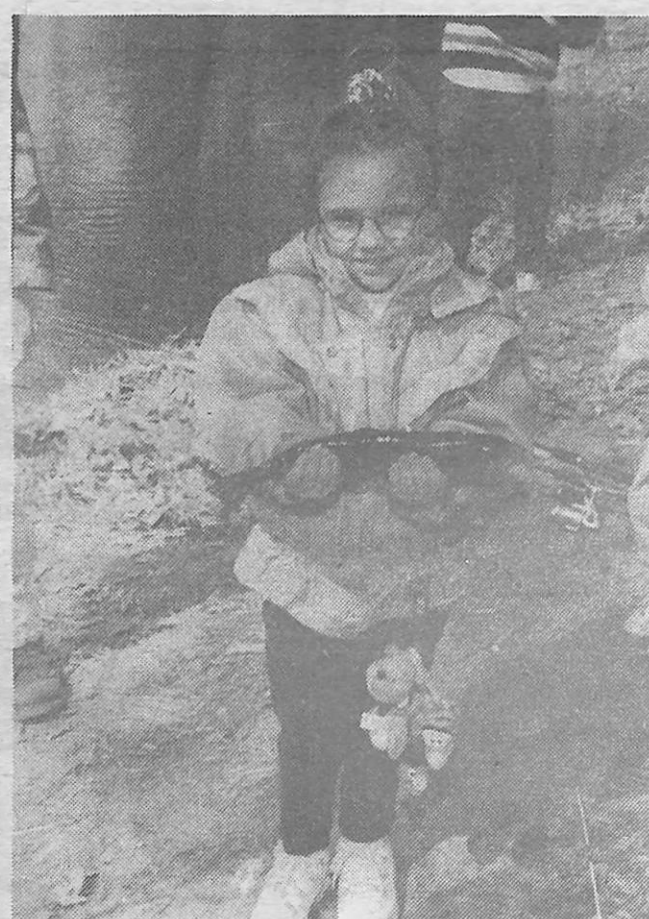


Volume XXII Number 15

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

April 15, 1999

Enjoying The Annual Lunker Derby...



THE MAWAGA SPORTING CLUB, INC., hosted its 10th Annual Lunker Derby at the club's facility on Adams Street, Agawam, last Sunday, April 11th. Pictured from left to right: six year-old Cody DaRosa, six year-old Karlee Saunders, and five year-old Charlie Saunders; Steve Roberts, Stephanie Plonski (holding a three-pound, five-ounce fish), John Plonski, and Ernie Leithoff; and five year-old Tiama Basile with a "fresh catch." Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Jury Awards \$2.5 Million / Town Vows Appeal...

DePalma Wins Latest War Over The Turf

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After six years fighting for his day in court, prominent local developer Ralph DePalma told his story to a jury and they sided with him - to the tune of \$2.5 million in damages.

The trial lasted for six days, but the jury took less than an hour in deciding that the 292-acre Tuckahoe Turf Farm was worth more than twice what the town paid for it when the land was taken by eminent domain in 1993. After an appraiser testified at the trial regarding the value of the land in 1993, the jury determined that the town should have paid \$2.5 million for the parcel.

DePalma said he felt justice had finally been served and that the case set a precedent that will protect homeowners and landowners from receiving less than they deserve in eminent domain land takings.

"Government has the right to take land by eminent domain and I don't disagree with that - otherwise, how would projects like roads ever be built? But, the government also has a legal and moral responsibility to pay the landowner the highest appraisal amount, not the lowest," DePalma said.

But, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson is "shocked and outraged" at the outcome of a trial that "total-

ly disregarded the facts in the case and the law."

Johnson said the town's Law Department is exploring all the options and intends to vigorously pursue "every option in getting this unjust verdict overturned."

Johnson said, "We believe there were a number of mistakes made that constitute reversible error. You can take it to the bank, the town will appeal."

DePalma said he did not feel that the town was being penalized by the verdict; rather, the town was merely being asked to pay a fair price for the property.

"They've got a beautiful piece of land that's worth much more than they paid for it. I believed it then and I certainly believe it now," DePalma said.

Right Of First Refusal

The town purchased the turf farm for \$1.1 million by exercising its right of first refusal and taking the land by eminent domain after DePalma had negotiated what he considered to be a bargain price for a piece of land that was worth much more if developed, DePalma said.

"The town wanted the land for the same reason I did," DePalma said. "They knew it was a bargain. But, the price I (would have) paid for it has nothing

to do with the fair market value."

The \$1.1 million the town paid to the owners of the turf farm in 1993 will be deducted from the \$2.5 million awarded to DePalma in damages, along with the 10 percent interest mandated by statute in eminent domain cases.

Hampden Superior Court Judge Lawrence Wernick is expected to write a memorandum setting the amount of interest that has been accruing since 1993, but DePalma believes the interest will amount to more than \$900,000.

In the town's 1986 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the acquisition of the turf farm was identified as the town's first priority in preserving open space and providing recreational areas for community use.

Planning to offset most of the cost by selling off several building lots fronting on Pine Street and by selling the development rights of the remainder of the property to the state under the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program, the town stepped in to take the land by eminent

SEE DEPALMA - Page 2...

DEPALMA - from Page 1...

domain to preserve most of the property as open space.

The northern 40 acres of the site are slated for recreational use under a plan for a sports complex calling for multi-use fields for baseball, soccer, football, and softball; basketball and volleyball courts; a playscape and a concession stand.

The 292-acre parcel constitutes the largest single piece of undeveloped land under single control in Agawam and has been at the heart of a legal battle between the town and DePalma for the last six years.

In 1994, the town received summary judgment on two counts of a suit DePalma filed challenging the town's right to take the property by exercising the right of first refusal and then taking the land by eminent domain. The third count of the suit, claiming the town had violated DePalma's civil rights, was decided in the town's favor at trial.

The case heard last week was a separate suit, seeking damages in the eminent domain land taking. The town was represented by Town Solicitor Thomas S. Locke; DePalma was represented by Springfield Attorney John J. Egan.

Keenan Announces Latest Installment Of Cable T.V. Show

A new episode of "From Your House to the State House With Representative Dan Keenan" will be airing during the month of April on channel 9, the local community access channel.

Viewers interested in watching can tune in every Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. during the month of April.

Joining Rep. Keenan as the guest for the show is Cornelius Mahoney, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Woronoco Bank. Current banking issues will be discussed, as well as changes taking place in the banking industry and at Woronoco Bank.

Rep. Keenan encourages and welcomes feedback, comments, or questions regarding the television show. Rep. Keenan can be contacted by phone at 786-4545, by mail at 342 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Melconian Hosts State Senate President In Western Massachusetts

Senate Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) proudly welcomed Thomas F. Birmingham, the President of the Massachusetts State Senate, to Western Massachusetts on Wednesday, April 14th.

The President met with local leaders, parents, and educators to gain the region's perspective on education reform and other important issues.

"It gave me a great pleasure to bring the President out to the western part of the state," said Melconian. "We have such great diversity in geography, opinion, and income that we represent the complete spectrum of viewpoints in the state."

The highlight of the President's visit was the Education Forum held at Springfield's new Chestnut Accelerated Middle School and hosted by President Birmingham. Entitled "Education Reform, Then and Now," it explored the impact of President Birmingham's landmark 1993 Education Reform law and the future direction of education in Massachusetts.

A series of panels were composed of superintendents, teachers, School Committee members, and parents from Agawam, Chicopee, Springfield, and West Springfield. Topics that were discussed included the implementation of the state's first MCAS test, and the seven-year, multi-billion-dollar program to improve local schools across the state. Local educators had the opportunity to focus on innovative programs they

have implemented with the increases in funding.

"Education is the number-one priority for the Senate this year, and I wanted to highlight some of the innovative programs we have in the western part of the state," said Melconian. "I even reminded the President of one of my favorite quotes: 'All good ideas begin in the West and travel East.'"

President Birmingham spent the entire day in Senator Melconian's district. He visited the largest Organized Labor Construction Site in Western Massachusetts — the Berkshire Power construction site — with members of the Pioneer Valley Building Trades Association.

President Birmingham and Senator Melconian also saluted site workers as the first recipients of the federal Office of Safety and Health Agency Voluntary Protection Program Short Term Construction Demonstration award. The award marked the site's commitment to safety for all workers.

President Birmingham and Senator Melconian met with local business leaders to discuss issues that are important to both labor and business groups. Part of the focus was on current and future economic development and job creation efforts in the Pioneer Valley, including gaining livable wages and increasing workforce training.

"I am excited to showcase the creative and efficient solutions Western Massachusetts has crafted to provide the skills and training that our citizens need to compete in the increasingly competitive world market," said Melconian.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Thursday, April 22, 1999 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on Main Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: April 15, 1999

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 22, 1999 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Suddekor for work to be performed on Bowles Road, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: April 15, 1999

SCOTT M. HIBBERT

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Lindeman's (750 ml.)

Bin 65 Chardonnay (Australia) **\$6.49**

Chateau St. Jean (750 ml.)

Sonoma Chardonnay (California) **\$9.49**

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Beck's Dark
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Lager, Summer Brew
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Canadian, Light
\$7.99 (Plus Dep.)

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Letters To The Editor

"Field Of Nightmares" Letter Accidentally Causes Confusion

To The Editor:

My letter to you that was published in the last issue, titled "Field of Nightmares," has apparently caused some confusion.

It was brought to my attention that some readers may have assumed I was speaking of the Agawam Little League Association as the league that was unwilling to allow my son to play baseball.

My son is turning 13 years-old and is now too old for the Agawam Little League. He had been with that league for the past six years and we never had any problems with them.

The league I was writing about is the Babe Ruth League for children 13 to 15 years of age.

I apologize for any confusion that may have been caused.

Linda Gamelli
Agawam

Senior Citizen Praises Agawam Public Library

To The Editor:

During the week of April 12th, we are celebrating "Library Week," and I would like to acknowledge my appreciation of the staff and volunteers who are so graciously accommodating.

As a senior person, I am personally grateful for the courteous assistance that has always been available to me. We are fortunate to have our fine library, which offers much more than "just books."

This is the week to say an extra special "thank-you!"

Ruth K. Roberts
Agawam

Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237
UNICO Honor Roll
Fundraiser Draws Hundreds

The scene at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills on Sunday, April 11th, was totally fantastic. If you missed the Pancake Breakfast served by the Agawam UNICO, you missed a really fun morning.

Hundreds of Agawam residents turned out for the fundraising event, and no one was in a hurry to leave.

Wonderful military music by Richie Mitnick and the melodious voices of the Agawam Melody Chorus under the direction of Darcy Davis filled our hearts with pride in our community and in our country as we perused the 30-plus military posters of all of the branches of service.

THANK YOU TO EACH AND EVERY UNICO MEMBER!!!

HONOR ROLL LIST ON DISPLAY: IMPORTANT!!!

At this point, we have published our entire Honor Roll List, including those veterans from the Revolutionary War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

The entire list is on display in the Agawam Town Hall Lobby, and we have a notebook binder containing the entire list at the Agawam Library. This will assist those who work days or do not get *The Agawam Advertiser News* to check the Honor Roll List for your name or the name of your loved one.

Eligibility: Honorable active wartime service, and Home of Record must be Agawam (this means you need to have resided in Agawam at the time of entry into military service).

We will allow a sufficient amount of time for people to come forward with additional names. We will then publish a final vertical list in *The Agawam Advertiser News*.

When checking the Honor Roll List, should you find an error in the spelling of your name, please stop in our office for a "Corrections Form" that will need to be completed. Names are listed as they appear on the discharges.

ADVERTISER NEWS

FireWise... by Fire Chief David Pisano

Addressing The "Y2K" Problem

(Part 1 Of 2)

For more than 100 years, the American Red Cross has been at the cutting edge of disaster relief activities, helping people prevent, prepare for, and cope with disasters and other emergencies.

That's why your Red Cross has published the following information about "Y2K" — its potential effects and what you can do to be prepared.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is "Y2K" and why are people concerned?

The Year 2000 technology problem, or bug as it is sometimes called, was created in the early days of computers, when memory in computers was scarce and expensive. Programmers took shortcuts whenever possible to save space. Instead of using a four-digit code for year dates, a two-digit entry was used. This practice persisted, long after the need for saving space was eliminated.

The two-digit code also was used in embedded chips, which exist in many devices that control processes, functions, machines (like cars), building ventilation systems, elevators, and fire and security alarm systems, which are part of our everyday lives.

When the year 2000 comes, programs that have been coded with two-digit year codes will not distinguish between the years 2000 and 1900. If the program includes time-sensitive calculations or comparisons, results are unpredictable. No one knows what problems may occur, how widespread they may be, or how long they will last.

The good news is that federal, state, and local governments; banks and other financial institutions; retail businesses; and every other group affected by this problem have been working to resolve it, and a great deal of progress has been made.

When could Y2K problems happen?

Most people anticipate Y2K problems may happen December 31, 1999, at midnight. Many experts predict that the problem is more likely to be a persistent one over a few years rather than a single "crash."

For example, there may be a computer-based problem with other dates, such as April 9, 1999, which is the 99th day of the year, or on 9/9/99. In the past, a series of nines was used to indicate termination of a computer program, and some experts believe that when all nines show up in a date

sequence, some computer systems could read it as a program termination command.

There also is some concern regarding fiscal year 2000 dates in those organizations with fiscal years that start earlier than December 31, 1999. Also, the year 2000 is a leap year, and the leap year date 02/29/00 may be a problem for some computer programs as well.

What kinds of things could happen as a result of Y2K problems?

The President's Council on Y2K Conversion, established by the White House, as well as a special Senate Committee, have focused their attention on defining the scope of the Y2K problem. Hearings have been conducted by the United States Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem and have focused on the following eight areas:

- Utilities and the national power grid.
- International banking and finance.
- Health care.
- Transportation.
- Telecommunications.
- Pension and mutual funds.
- Emergency planning.
- General business.

The potential effect of the Y2K technology problem on any of these areas is unknown, and the situation continues to change as federal, state, and local governments; industries; businesses; and organizations, as well as the general public, take actions to reduce the problem. Experts who spoke at the Senate hearings believe that there may be localized disruptions.

For example, in some areas, electrical power may be unavailable for some time. Manufacturing and production industries may be disrupted. Roads may be closed or gridlocked if traffic signals are disrupted. Electronic credit card transactions may not be processed. Telephone systems may not work.

(Editor's note: In next week edition, we will publish a checklist of some easy steps you can take to prepare for possible disruptions.)

The Agawam Fire Department has received flyers put out by the Red Cross regarding the Y2K bug, and these flyers are available to the public. For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

State Rep. Keenan Testifies On Tobacco Products Legislation

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan testified recently on a bill he co-sponsored that would prohibit the possession of tobacco products by a minor before the Joint Committee on Health Care.

The bill would impose civil penalties, such as fines, and enrollment in a tobacco cessation program on anyone under the age of 18 possessing cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other tobacco product.

Currently, in Massachusetts it is illegal to sell tobacco products to a minor. It is not illegal, however, for a minor to possess the tobacco products.

"I am worried about today's youth," Keenan said. "I am concerned that government is not sending a clear message. If it is illegal for minors to purchase tobacco products, it should also be illegal for minors to use such products."

Agawam Republican Town Comm. Elects Officers At Mtg.

The Agawam Republican Town Committee held an election of officers at their April 10th meeting.

Elected to serve were Ronald Lariviere as chairman; Robert Danie, first vice-chairman; Rita Moore, second vice-chairman; Peggy Magovern, secretary; and Raymond Wycoff as treasurer.

Short- and long-range programs were discussed and dates for the next three meetings were set.

The next meeting will be held at the Oak Ridge Country Club at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 8th. A program will be announced prior to the meeting.

All the hometown news with us, each and every week ... AAN!!!



The Agawam Advertiser•News

786-7747

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Randall White Of The Agawam Health Department...

Hats Off To A Man Who Wears Lots Of Them

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

As Randall G. White discussed his background, he occasionally checked the screen of his computer, which recently was acquired as a result of a grant. And with Internet access, White can download forms, check new regulations from the Department of Environmental Protection, or other sources, learn of grants, or keep up with any issue relevant to health.

He described a service that allows him to send out a question to a central site, which in turn goes to all other Health Departments with Internet access. He can get a response very quickly. Announcements from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health are received on a daily basis.

Randall G. White joined Agawam's Health Department in January 1996. Before that, he worked for the City of Springfield since 1979. He grew up in Agawam, graduated from Agawam High School, enrolled at Holyoke Community College in the Environmental Health Program, then transferred to the University of Massachusetts, majoring in public health with a concentration in environmental health.

His interests coincided with a social movement toward conservation of natural resources and protection of the environment. Events such as Earth Day, approaching in mid-April and almost into its 30th year, show that there remains a need for people with a comprehensive education in environmental health.

"My job is like a continuing education," he said.

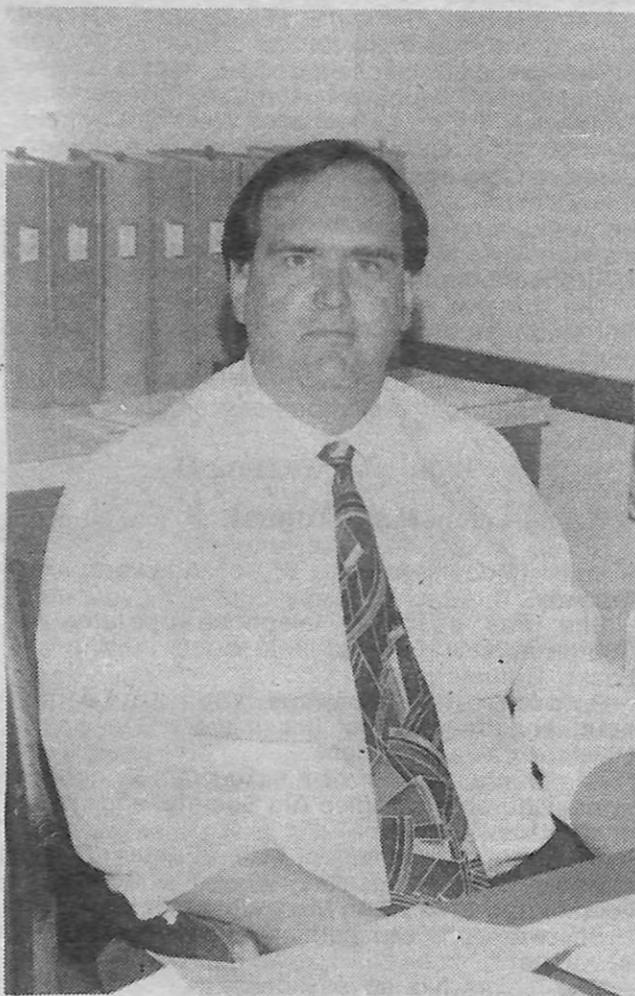
There were probably just 100 to 120 students in the Public Health Program when White graduated from UMass. He then studied to become a registered sanitarian, which is a professional designation, such as "registered nurse." The exam covers a broad spectrum, from communicable disease to waste water treatment, microbiology, housing codes, food sanitation, and septic systems. Since obtaining his certification in 1979, approximately 400 individuals to date have been licensed.

White was hired as a sanitarian by the City of Springfield. Each sanitarian was assigned to a section of the city, and was responsible for inspecting all the restaurants and investigating all complaints within their section.

"The more common name for 'registered sanitarian' is 'health inspector,'" White clarified.

Soon Became Director

White soon became director, overseeing the Division of Environmental Health, involving seven



RANDALL G. WHITE

inspectors, a food laboratory, and a lead paint program due to budget cuts. White became the "Right to Know Coordinator" for city employees. The Community "Right to Know Law" came about due to a terrible disaster in Bhopal, India. White instructed employees on how to use Material Safety Data Sheets, and how citizens could get information about what chemicals were being used in their community.

In 1991, he worked as a code enforcement lead paint inspector. "The work itself is an education,

and quite interesting," he observed.

In 1992, White once again became the director of Environmental Health, but due to personnel budget cuts, the Division of Environmental Health had been decimated to a four-person department. The "Right to Know" and Lead Inspection Programs had been cut as had the food and milk lab. He was happy to accept his current place in Agawam as health agent.

"It's a one-person operation, and no two days are alike," he smiled. "There is something different every day. I like working with people, and the individuals in Town Hall, as well as the citizens of Agawam, have been great to work with."

White has been able to bring changes and progress for public health. Since 1996, Hepatitis B immunizations have been given to the sixth-graders, and since 1998 have been made available for 12th-graders, which has been of benefit to students heading off to college. He works with the School Department and with parents.

As health agent, he issues food licenses, regulates the Title Five Septic Program, the school nurses, and community health nurse. He grew up in Agawam and his mother and family still live in town. White lives with his wife, Caroline (daughter of Judge and Mrs. William J. Walsh) and their children.

Written & Obtained Several Grants

White has written and obtained several grants, one of which helps homeowners with failed septic systems (called a Betterment Loan). It is a loan from the town to be paid back over 10 years at five percent, included in the homeowner tax bill. He also has reduced the costs for disposal of household hazardous waste. The price has gone from \$30,000 to \$6,000 in just a few years.

Another project on White's table is the working out of an arrangement with Medicare to obtain a Part B Provider, which would allow the Town of Agawam to seek reimbursement of flu and pneumonia immunizations.

"I have a very competent staff," White told us. "Nancy Modzelewski, Health Department secretary, has been most helpful, and I enjoy working with Sherry Petrucci, our town nurse. Agawam's a good place to work and if I have to be away from the office, the Engineering and Building Departments are there to handle any emergencies until I return."

The work is diversified, challenging, and ever-changing, but Randy White wouldn't have it any other way.

Remember, our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Robert H. Bohlke

Robert H. Bohlke, 84, of 462 Main Street, Agawam, and formerly of Main Street, Hampden, a retired professor emeritus of sociology at American International College, Springfield, died recently at a local nursing home.

He was a professor of sociology at AIC from 1961 until he retired in 1982. After retirement, he continued teaching at other institutions, including University of Connecticut at Storrs, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and Memorial University, Newfoundland, St. Johns.

From 1939 to 1941, he taught at a private elementary school in New Canaan, Connecticut, and from 1941 to 1942, he taught sixth through eighth grade in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He also worked for General Electric in Bridgeport.

He taught at the Altoona, Pennsylvania, Branch of Pennsylvania State until 1953. In 1953, he went to New York University, and in 1958, he took a position at Oneonta State College for six years.

Born and educated in Metuchen, New Jersey, he received his bachelor's of arts from Dartmouth College in 1937 and his master's of arts in sociology from Columbia University in 1938.

He was a resident of Hampden since 1961, moving to Agawam a short time ago.

He was secretary of the Eastern U.S. Sociological Association, head of the American Association of University Professors Branch at American International College, and was also active in the branch at Oneonta State College.

He served as a member of the Commission on Human Relations in Springfield for two years. He was admitted as a voting member of the American Sociological Association in 1969.

During World War II, he served in the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Division of the Army as a staff sergeant in the Ardennes, Rhineland, Central European, African, and Middle Eastern Theaters.

His wife, the former Ada R. Spoerl, died in 1989.

He leaves his sister-in-law, Margaret Bohlke of Canada; a nephew, and close friends, Mr. and Mrs. Dana S. Pixley of Hampden.

The funeral and burial were in Wells, Maine, at the convenience of the family. Dickinson-Streeter Funeral Home of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Barbara R. Hill

Barbara R. (Benway) Hill, 70, of 47 Ruth Avenue, Agawam, an area singer and musician, died recently at Western Massachusetts Hospital in Westfield.

Born in Bolton, she was a 20-year Agawam resident and a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church. She directed many parish and community musical productions.

She was a vocalist, guitarist, and pianist and

performed with area bands, including the Hal Kay Trio, Len Abbey & the Kingsmen, the Ronnie Brumm Band, and Fred Dimauro's Orchestra. She also sang in local country clubs, restaurants, and night clubs, and won awards for singing at area nursing homes.

Her husband, Kenneth B. Hill, died in 1994, and her son, Kenneth J., in 1993.

She leaves another son, Douglas J. of West Springfield; five daughters, Darilyn Patterson of Southwick, Karen LaPointe of West Springfield, Cynthia Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Loretta Gumlaw of Springfield, and Luanna Saunders of Wilbraham; three brothers, Robert Benway, Francis Benway, and Alfred Benway, and a sister, Rose Marie Perout, all of Massachusetts; 22 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made in the form of spiritual remembrances or Mass intentions.

Mary August

Mary (Mocek) August, 86, of Agawam, died recently.

She was a former telephone operator for Southern New England Telephone in Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

Born in Westfield, she lived in Suffield, Connecticut, and the Windsor Locks area. She was a 60-year Agawam resident.

She was a member of the Agawam Congregational Church, its Ladies Aid Society, and flower committee.

She was a past member of the Eastern Star, a member of the Agawam Women's Club, and volunteered at Wesson Memorial Hospital.

She was predeceased by her husband, Richard A. August.

She leaves two sons, Richard A. "Joe," Jr. of Enfield, Connecticut, and Robert of Somers, Connecticut; a brother, Henry Bednarz of Bernardston; three sisters, Cecilia Tribble of Broad Brook, Connecticut, Margaret Bass of East Windsor, Connecticut, and Gertrude Oliva of Windsor Locks; four grandsons; and eight great-grandchildren.

The funeral and burial were at the convenience of the family. J.M. Bassinger Funeral Home of East Windsor was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ladies Aid Society at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Elaine R.C. McAuley

Elaine R. (Annis) Connaughton McAuley, 84, formerly of Riverside Drive in the Florence section of Northampton, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was a sales clerk at the former S&H Green Stamp Catalogue Store in Agawam.

Born in Dover, New Hampshire, she lived in South Hadley and was a 1932 graduate of South Hadley High School.

She lived in Agawam for 20 years before moving to Florence in 1976.

She was a member of the Agawam Baptist Church and was a founder of its Trading Post in 1950.

She was active in church activities and did volunteer work for many years. She also participated in charity organizations in this area.

Her first husband, Freeman Connaughton, died in 1964, and her second, Firth McAuley, died in 1993.

She leaves a son, Gary F. Connaughton of Granby; a daughter, Faye R. O'Malley of Westfield; a stepdaughter, Jacqueline Rose of Glen Burnie, Maryland; a brother, Leonard P. Annis of Southampton; and four grandchildren.

The funeral will be held on the morning of April 17th at Agawam Baptist Church, with a private burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery. Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Baptist Church Memorial Fund, 760 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Robert J. Ratcliffe

Robert J. Ratcliffe, 75, of Auburndale, Florida, died on December 29, 1998 in Lakeland, Florida.

He was a supervisor of printing and supplies for Associated Transport Trucking Co.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut, he lived in Agawam for many years before moving to Auburndale in 1995.

A Navy veteran, he served aboard the battleship, USS Iowa.

He leaves his wife, Eleanore Ratcliffe; two daughters, Karen Ratcliffe of Enfield, Connecticut, and Gloria Bousquet of Agawam; a brother, Edwin of Auburndale; three sisters, Jeanne Beaudoin of Auburndale, Nancy Grover of Newington, Connecticut, and Carol Dalphin of Canton, Connecticut; 10 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

A memorial service was held at St. David's Episcopal Church in Feeding Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Russell E. Baker

Russell E. "Rusty" Baker, 80, of 116 Adams Street, Agawam, died recently at home.

Born in Springfield, he was a lifelong resident of Agawam.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 7...



In Loving Memory
Of My Husband

**Frank V.
Sassarone**

Died April 9, 1998

*Always In My Thoughts.
Forever In My Heart.*

*Missed By All
Who Loved Him.*



Rejean J. Remillard Insurance Agency

Auto ♦ Home ♦ Life ♦ Workers Comp ♦ Liability ♦ IRA's

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23 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills, MA



**Open Monday- Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am to Noon**

(413) 789-3070

OBITUARIES - from Page 6...

He worked for the City of Agawam in the Department of Public Works for 28 years, retiring in 1981 as a foreman.

He was a life member of the American Legion Post 185 and a past commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1632.

He was a life member of the Mawaga Sporting Club, the Agawam Sporting Club, the Massachusetts Trapper's Association, and various other sporting clubs.

He was a past superintendent of the Agawam Center Cemetery Board and a member of the Hampden County Improvement League.

He was a World War II Navy veteran and a member of the 95th Seabee Battalion.

He leaves his wife of 52 years, the former Helen A. Chaclos; a son, Charles R. of Agawam; a daughter, Marjorie A. Borkosky of Feeding Hills; a brother, Roger Baker of South Deerfield; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Veterans' Honor Roll Fund, in care of Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, or to the Noble Visiting Nurse & Hospice, 77 Mill Street, Westfield, MA 01085.

Dolpho Nardi

Dolpho Nardi, 85, formerly of 1250 Westfield Street, Holyoke, died recently at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

He worked in the construction field for many local companies as the oiler for the cranes.

Born in Agawam, he moved to West Springfield and had lived in Holyoke for the past 15 years.

He was a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 98.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific Theater, and was awarded a Bronze Star.

He leaves two brothers, Raymond C. and Armando J., both of Agawam.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Western Massachusetts Regional Center, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Lee H. Corbert

Lee H. Corbert, 58, of 35 Ferncliff Avenue, Springfield, died recently at home.

He was a sales manager for the New Orleans Hilton Hotel and retired in 1979.

Born in the Bronx, New York, he lived in Agawam since 1953 and was a long-time resident of Springfield.

He was a 1957 graduate of Agawam High School, attended the University of Connecticut from 1957 to 1958, and attended the University of Maryland from 1958 to 1961. He also was a 1967 graduate of Western New England College.

He was an Air Force veteran.

He leaves his son, Lee H. II of West Springfield; two daughters, Kristin D. Corbert of Shrewsbury and Desiree N. Sunderland of Springfield; a sister, Sandra Hamilakis of Melbourne, Florida; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Forastiere Funeral Home of Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Douglas J. Miarecki

Douglas J. Miarecki, 81, of Feeding Hills, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was an autobody painter for Sarat Ford and retired in 1998.

He worked previously at John Glass Ford in Westfield.

Born in the Gilbertville section of Palmer, he grew up in Chicopee and lived in Feeding Hills for 35 years.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Lorraine A. Roy; two sons, Douglas A. of Agawam and Paul M. of Feeding Hills; three sisters, Amelia Bajek and Stephania Woishnis, both of Chicopee, and Helen Parks of Cape Cod; and two granddaughters.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Myrtle R. Kenney

Myrtle R. (Reid) Kenney, 83, formerly of Hall Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at a local nursing home.

She worked at the Registry of Motor Vehicles in Westfield for 30 years, retiring in 1978.

Born in Lowell, she moved to Worcester at an early age and was educated there, before moving to Springfield in 1950.

She lived in Feeding Hills since 1959.

She leaves two cousins, Irene Kilby of Arizona and Katherine Hake of Maryland, and a friend, Betty Robinson of Worcester.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Park Lawn Cemetery, Bennington, Vermont.

Pauline I. Maynard

Pauline I. Maynard, 68, of 16 Stanley Court, Chicopee, died recently in Springfield's Mercy Hospital.

She was a retired employee of Hodge's Fiber Co. and A.G. Spalding Co. (now Spalding Sports Worldwide).

Born in Springfield, she lived in Chicopee all her life.

She was a member of the Martha's at Liberty United Methodist Church in Springfield.

Her first and second husbands, Paul Bedard and Gerard Breault, respectively, died in 1983.

She leaves two sons, Raymond P. of Deltona, Florida, and Keith I. of Chicopee; a daughter, Suzanne Y. Nissen of Springfield; a brother, Rene Maynard of Chicopee; three sisters, Evelyn Lewis, Eleanor Maynard, and Carol Maynard, all of Chicopee; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Anita T. McMahon

Anita T. (Luccardi) McMahon, 86, of 807 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, died recently at home.

She was a cafeteria worker at Agawam High School and retired in 1960.

Born in Springfield, she lived in Agawam most of her life before moving back to Springfield in 1996.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 8...

786-1127
786-1128

Alexander's

Restaurant & Banquet

60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

Early Bird Specials

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Enjoy A Variety Of Dishes Selected By Our Chef For **\$6.95**.
Entrees Include Soup Or Salad, Vegetable, Rolls And Butter.

*You Still Can Enjoy Fine Italian Cuisine Made With Only The
Finest Quality Ingredients For Under **\$10.00**. We Feature Delicious
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Open For Dinner At 4:00 P.M.

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Fri. & Sat., 4:00 - 10:00

Reservations Suggested For Friday & Saturday Nights

*Consider Our Private Banquet Facility
For That Special Occasion You're Planning
(Weddings, Showers, Anniversary Parties, Etc.)*

Accommodates From
50 To 200 People

**We Are Now Open On
Sundays From 3 To 9 P.M.**

Owner
Charlie Grasso

Head Chef
Paul Bickford




Ag. Town Council Meeting Agenda For April 20, 1999

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Executive Session of 10/3/88; 10/17/88; 11/9/88; 12/19/88; 9/18/89; 4/3/89; 10/5/92; 12/6/93; 9/21/94; 3/6/95; 2/18/97.

Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 4/5/99

5. Declaration from Council President.
6. Presentations of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-99-11- A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of Ronald A. LaRiviere, 79 Bradford Dr., FH, MA 01030 to the Agawam Planning Board for a Five Year Term Expiring January 1, 2004 (Mayor).

7. Report of Council Committees

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

(a)

1. PH-99-3-(TO-99-12)-Application-Gas Storage Permit-Crestview Country Club, 275 Shoemaker Lane-Request for 1,000 gal. aboveground gasoline (Conduct Public Hearing).

2. PH-99-4-(TO-99-13)-Application-Gas Storage Permit-Lucia Lumber Co., 777 Silver St.-Request for 20,000 gal. underground (5,000 gal. gasoline/15,000 gal. diesel (Conduct Public Hearing).

10. Old Business

(a)

1. TO-99-7-Established 3 member committee to review salaries of the Mayor, Council, and School Committee and all boards here and other communities and to draft an ordinance accordingly (Pres. Rheault).

2. TO-99-14-Voucher List (\$219.55).

3. TO-99-15-Renewal of Junk Dealer License: Block Jeweler

4. TO-99-16-Renewal of Junk Dealer License: John Rosati d/b/a John's Trucking of Agawam, Inc.

5. TO-99-17-Renewal of Junk Dealer License: T's Jewelers.

10. Old Business

6. TO-99-18-Transfer-\$54,900.00 from Salary Reserve (16605-57350) to Police-Salaries (\$43,000) (12101-51010); Police-Overtime (\$2,500)(12101-51020); Police-Holiday (\$3,300)(12101-51050); Police-Court Time (\$4,000)(12101-51080); and Police-Roll Call (\$2m100)(12101-51110)(Mayor).

7. TO-99-19-Transfer-\$800.00 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Library-Telephone (16102-52150) (Mayor).

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL AGAWAM, MA

THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 20, 1999 AT 7:30 p.m. AT THE AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL, 68 MAIN STREET, AGAWAM, MA ON THE APPLICATION OF LUCIA LUMBER CO. FOR A LICENSE TO KEEP, STORE FOR PERSONAL USE/OR RESALE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN UNDERGROUND TANKS OR ABOVE GROUND NOT TO EXCEED 20,000 GALLONS AT 777 SILVER STREET IN THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, MA.

RICHARD M. THEROUX
TOWN CLERK

PUBLISHED: APRIL 15, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL AGAWAM, MA

THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 20, 1999 AT 7:30 p.m. AT THE AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL, 68 MAIN STREET, AGAWAM, MA. ON THE APPLICATION OF CRESTVIEW COUNTRY CLUB FOR A LICENSE TO KEEP, STORE FOR PERSONAL USE/OR RESALE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN UNDERGROUND TANKS OR ABOVE GROUND NOT TO EXCEED 1,000 GALLONS AT 275 SHOEMAKER LANE IN THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, MA.

Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk
Published: April 15, 1999

* * *

*Our office will be open on
Monday, April 19th (Pa-
triot's Day) ... AAN!!!*

* * *

Health Plan Info. For Area Seniors

Senior citizens confused about Medicare HMO drug benefit changes can contact State Representative Daniel F. Keenan's office to obtain a pamphlet outlining the different financial assistance programs offered by health plans.

To obtain a pamphlet, Rep. Keenan can be contacted at (413) 786-4545.

The basic pharmacy benefit structure and the one-year transitional programs vary somewhat from plan to plan. Plans highlighted on the pamphlet are: Tufts, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Fallon, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

OBITUARIES - from Page 7...

She was a graduate of Agawam High School and Bay Path College.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

Her husband, John F. McMahon, died in 1952.

She leaves a son, Martin J. of San Francisco; a daughter, Patricia Kleh of London, England; a sister, Inez Reynolds of Farmington, Connecticut; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery, West Springfield.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

GREAT INTEREST in Westbank's New IRA Certificates

1 ½ Year - \$1,000 Minimum

4.96%
APY*

1 Year - \$1,000 Minimum

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APY*

Take Advantage of IRA Tax Savings
by choosing the IRA that suits your needs:
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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is stated in this ad. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY is accurate as of 1/9/99. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are FD.I.C. insured to \$100,000. Fees could reduce earnings on your account.

MEMBER FD.I.C.





Families

Ziti And Meatball Dinner To Benefit Baby Valarie Marsh

On Saturday, April 17th, a ziti and meatball dinner will be held at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, for the benefit of Valarie Marsh. This event will run from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Val, who resides in Agawam, is a 16 month-old baby girl who was born with SVT — supra ventricular tachycardia. She was recently diagnosed with having two holes in her heart, and she is having open heart surgery on April 9th at Boston Children's Hospital.

This is all complicated by intestinal and lung problems. Val also has atopic eczema/dermatitis, and she has many allergies. She constantly needs to be seen by a team of doctors at Boston Children's Hospital.

The monies contributed through this benefit will be used for Val's continuous care at Boston Children's Hospital and all of her special needs.

Tickets for the dinner (which will also feature a D.J. and raffles) are \$10. For tickets and information, call Lisa at 789-7546. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Donations may also be made to baby Val in care of the "Baby Valarie Marsh Benefit" at Woronoco Savings Bank, P.O. Box 266, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

The Marsh family — baby Valarie, Christa, Melissa, Leah, Joey, Erin, Lisa, and John — appreciates any support that you can give and looks forward to seeing you on April 17th.

Happy Birthday!!!



AT THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER, Flora Breton was recently honored on the occasion of her 102nd birthday. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Spring Meeting Of Women Marines Slated For April 24th

Women Marine Association Ma-2 Peg Parda chapter will meet on April 24th at the Marine Corps League building at North Elm Street, Westfield, MA, at 12:00 noon.

All women Marines (former, active, or reservist) are all welcome to join your sister Marines at this get-together.

I know there are many of you women Marines in Western Massachusetts out there; won't you please call 786-2597, even if only to talk to another women Marine.

Remember, "Once A Marine, Always A Marine."

Program On "How To Work With Angels" At The Leonard House

A lecture on how to work with the angels of protection, healing, wisdom, and love will be given at the Captain Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 21st.

Presented by George Logos, part of the lecture will be on how angels can help with the war in Kosovo and with the Y2K problem. Nine pages on angels are free to all who come. Admission is \$7.

To register, call 538-5655 and leave your name and telephone number on the voice mail.

(The next lecture will be on spiritual astrology.)

Check our classified ads each and every week.

* * *

ADVERTISER NEWS

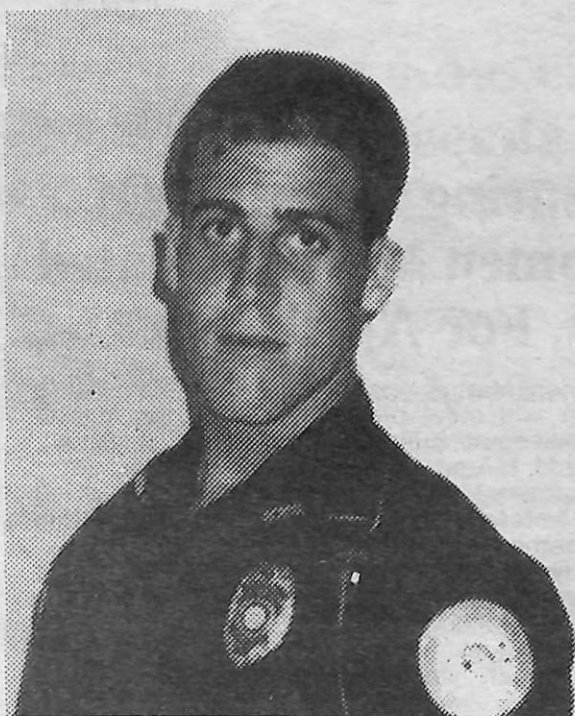
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TONY LAFRENIERE

Tony Lafreniere Graduates From Georgia Police Acad.

Tony Lafreniere of Agawam, the son of Richard and Regina Murphy of Agawam, graduated from the Northeast Georgia Police Academy on March 12, 1999.

Tony participated in the 10-week, 384-hour Basic Law Enforcement Training course as required by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council.

The course provides instruction in the areas of criminal justice, criminal law, constitutional law, community relations, modern police procedures, firearms, emergency vehicle operations, and first aid training.

The completion of this course represents the 153rd session graduated by the Academy. Tony is employed with the Monroe, Georgia Police Department.

Agawam AARP To Hold Next Mtg. On Mon., April 26th

If you are a member of AARP (national), you are eligible to join the Agawam chapter. AARP offers free information on all subjects that affect senior citizens as young as 50 years-old.

AARP is considered the guardians of many issues that affect the nation's senior citizens. We are well represented in Washington by AARP. We encourage new members to join us and become better informed on the hot issues that affect us now and the future.

After a short meeting, a movie will be shown on a subject some of us are familiar with called, "Feeling Good With Arthritis," an award-winning movie produced in cooperation with the American College of Rheumatology, and features baseball legend Mickey Mantle, who shares his personal experience with the disease. Leading medical experts offer advice on pain relief and tips for meeting everyday challenges.

The meeting is at the Agawam Senior Center on Monday, April 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 19th: Senior Center closed (Patriots' Day).

Tuesday, April 20th: New dish — beef & beans on a baked potato with cheese, cauliflower & spinach salad, RUDI roll, chocolate pudding.

Wednesday, April 21st: Baked chicken breast, harvest vegetable rice, carrot coins, oat bread, cookie.

Thursday, April 22nd: Stuffed peppers, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rye bread, applesauce.

Friday, April 23rd: Cream of broccoli soup, egg salad on a roll, pickled beets, tropical fruit.

Feeding Hills Grange Announces Upcoming Activities

Community Grange No. 382 will hold an indoor Tag Sale on Saturday, April 24th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall, located at 47 North West Street, Feeding Hills. A snack bar will be available.

On Saturday, May 8th, the Grange will host a Polish Supper from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., also at the Grange Hall (47 North West Street).

The menu will consist of homemade stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, baked beans, vegetable, rye bread and butter, choice of dessert, and beverage (coffee, tea, juice, or milk).

Donation is \$6.50 for adults, and \$3 for children under 12. Reservations are suggested and can be made by calling Pauline at 789-2061 or Evelyn at 786-0821.

If you missed the last one, don't miss this one! The public is invited to attend.

Agawam Retired Employees Slate General Meeting

Agawam Retired Employees will hold a General Meeting on Wednesday, April 21st at 1:00 p.m., at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria.

The program for this meeting will be entitled, "Asset Protection-1999" and will be presented by Agawam resident Sandra J. Grant, a specialist in long-term health care protection and by Attorney Cheryl Dunn of the Springfield law firm of Bacon and Wilson, PC.

Both speakers are well versed in the concerns and issues of today's senior citizens and will cover many of these in their presentation. Areas to be covered include Homestead Protection Act, Probate, Durable Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy, Wills, Life Estates, Estate Taxes, Trusts, Transferring Assets, Gifting, Nursing Homes and Medicaid, and Long-Term Care Insurance.

There will be an opportunity for a question and answer period and both presenters will be available to respond.

The Executive Board of A.R.E. urges you to attend this meeting and also welcomes any retired employee of the Town of Agawam who would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

* * *

Check our classified ads each and every week.

* * *



ERIC N. DUFRESNE

Airman Eric N. Dufresne Completes Basic Training

Air Force Airman Eric N. Dufresne has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate's degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Dufresne is the son of Christine M. and Norman Dufresne of 32 Norman Terrace, Feeding Hills.

The airman is a 1996 graduate of Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

* * *



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\$229⁰⁰ MFG. PRICE: \$455⁰⁰

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BACK PACKS

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THE BAG MAN 1325 SPRINGFIELD ST., FEEDING HILLS

Agawam Golden Age Club, Ch. 2, Installs Officers At Banquet

The Annual Banquet and installation of officers of Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2 was held at the Oaks Banquet House, Suffield Street, Agawam on Wednesday, April 7th.

President Perry McCobb and his wife, Rose, greeted members at the club's Social Hour at 11:00 a.m. in the attractive banquet hall. Snacks of crackers, cheese, and punch were served.

At noon, President McCobb led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and he called Chaplain Leaneore Dion to the podium to give a prayer. Excellent dinners of prime rib of beef, stuffed breast of capon, and tasty baked scrod were served promptly by the skilled Oaks waitresses.

Vinton and Gwen Gregory were the installing officers and charge each officer with individual duties. The following persons were installed:

Perry McCobb, president; Harry Durant, vice-president; James Birchall, treasurer; Rita Matys, recording secretary; Barbara Kupec, corresponding secretary; and Leaneore Dion, chaplain.

Each officer was presented with their badge and conducted around the banquet hall by Marshall Gwen Gregory to the music played by Eleanor Toussaint. Corsages were worn by the women officers and carnations by the men.

Vinton Gregory presented the gavel to the president as the final act of installation after the entire membership gave Perry McCobb a standing ovation.

The Banquet Committee received special thanks from President McCobb as follows:

Barbara Sherry, Louise Frank, and Eileen Collier, ticket sales; Harry and Betty Durant, table arrangements; Virginia Lake, entertainment; Mary Spinelli, card punchers; Vinton and Gwen Gregory, installing officers; and Eleanor Toussaint, music. The site selection and menu were handled by Perry and Rose McCobb.

The program was closed by the 160 members in attendance singing "God Bless America" led by Louis Scherpa, past president.



THE 1999 OFFICERS of the Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2 (from left to right): Harry Durant, vice-president; James Birchall, treasurer; Barbara Kupec, corresponding secretary; Leaneore Dion, chaplain; Rita Matys, recording secretary; and Perry McCobb, president.



THE 1999 CHAPTER 2 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS: Standing - Annette Phaneuf, "sunshine lady"; Virginia Lake, program; Mary Spinelli, attendance; Eleanor Geiger, ways and means; and Eleanor Toussaint, accompanist. Seated - Alice Bishop, travel.



French Toast Breakfast On April 18th

The "Friends" of the Agawam Senior Center will hold a French toast breakfast on April 18th at the Agawam Senior Center. There will be continuous servings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The menu will consist of French toast, sausage, orange juice, and coffee, milk, or tea. We will also have an egg substitute for those who can't have eggs.

"Friends" will be assisted by the Agawam Lions Club, who will do the cooking.

This promises to be a very enjoyable morning with family and friends. We hope to see many of our friends and civic leaders come out for this event.

The tickets will be \$3.50 for adults, and \$1.50 for children under 12. Tickets may be obtained from any member of "Friends," or at the Senior Center.

Our office will be open on Monday, Patriots' Day.

* * *



INSTALLING OFFICER Vinton Gregory (far left) presents a gavel to Chapter 2 President Perry McCobb. Looking on are Vice-President Harry Durant and Marshall Gwen Gregory.

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35% OFF

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Coming
Soon!

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Candle
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Black Cherry



JACOB PETER IMPOCO

The Impoco Family Announces Birth Of Son, Jacob Peter

Anthony and Christine Impoco are pleased to announce the birth of their third child, Jacob Peter Impoco.

Jacob was born at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield on Monday, March 15, 1999. He weighed 10 pounds, four ounces, and measured 23 inches long.

Grandparents are George and Nancy Hellquist, and Sam and Joyce Impoco, all of Feeding Hills. The paternal great-grandfather is Joe Impoco, Sr. of Springfield.

Jacob was welcomed home by his brother, Joseph, age four, and his sister, Jessica, age 2½.

Fish & Chip Dinners Held Each Friday At The Agawam VFW

Each Friday evening, fish and chip dinners will be held at the Agawam VFW, Post 1632 (located at 194 South Street, Agawam).

The cost is \$5.95 per person, and the Friday night dinners will begin at 5:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

Best local news - AAN!!!

Family Dentistry

Gentle, Caring Dentistry At An Affordable Price

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AGAWAMOPOLY At The Senior Ctr.

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes and the Rotary Club will be holding an AGAWAMOPOLY night at the Agawam Senior Center on April 16th at 6:00 p.m.

AGAWAMOPOLY is played just like Monopoly except that you buy AGAWAM BUSINESSES instead of Park Place, Boardwalk, etc. and purchase clients instead of buildings.

It's a fun game, and at the same time, we learn of the businesses who support our school programs, the Agawam Senior Games Athletes, civic organizations, etc. and make Agawam the town that it is.

There will be four people at a table to play the game and one person at each table will win an AGAWAMOPOLY game. Light refreshments will be served, and members of the Rotary Club and ASGA will be available to answer any questions about the rules.

We are sure that this will be a fun night for all who attend, and we urge you to get your tickets early as we only have 30 tables. Ticket cost is \$5 per person.

Tickets may be purchased from an ASGA or Rotary member or at the Senior Center. For more information, call Vi Presz at 786-3164.

COME ONE!!! COME ALL!!! PLAY!!! WIN!!! SOCIALIZE!!!

Agawam Lioness Club Is Now Selling Coverlets

A new shipment of Agawam coverlets has arrived just in time for gift-giving. These make great gifts for all occasions, including Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day, birthdays, and graduations.

We have them available in cranberry and Williamsburg blue. Please keep the coverlets and our pillows in mind next time you need a gift.

The coverlets sell for \$45 and the pillows are \$15, and they are available from any Lioness member or by calling 786-1782.

* * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053...

* * *



SCOTT G. SIMPSON, SR. & KEELY L. HATFIELD

Keely L. Hatfield Engaged To Wed Scott G. Simpson, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth R. Wojcik of Henry St., Feeding Hills, along with Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Hatfield of Pittsburgh, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Keely L. Hatfield to Scott G. Simpson, Sr., the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W. Simpson, Sr. of North Ft. Myers, Florida.

Keely attended and graduated from Willie Ross School For The Deaf in 1987, North Regional in 1991, and Caregivers School in 1998 with a certification in Nursing Asst. and Home Health Aide. She is currently employed at Expert Care of West Springfield in the Nursing Asst. field.

Scott attended and graduated from Clarke School For The Deaf in 1987, Longmeadow High School in 1990, and attended two years at Keene College in the Business Management field from 1990 to 1992. He is currently employed at Phoenix Home Life Insurance Co. of Enfield, Connecticut in the Shipping and Receiving Department.

They plan to marry on September 4, 1999 in Agawam. Shannon Regnier-Rivera and Leah Kelly will attend as her matrons of honor. Amy Pardee and Julie Plankey will attend as her bridesmaids. Kristen Hatfield will attend as her junior bridesmaid. Anna Pelissier will attend as her honor person.

Wayne Simpson will attend as best man. David Perguidi and Paul Taylor will attend as ushers. Scott G. Simpson, Jr. will attend at ringbearer.



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Church News

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

There will be a New Member Class on Saturday, April 17th, at 10:00 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Anyone interested in joining the church is welcome to attend this class.

This Sunday, April 18th, is the Third Sunday of Easter.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be, "In Our Midst," taken from Text: Luke 24:13-25. His Children's Message will be, "Know One Another."

Children ages three years through the sixth grade will go directly downstairs to the Worship Chapel for Communion. Rev. Fuller and the members of the Board of Deacons will serve Communion to the children and explain the Holy Sacrament.

The next Loaves & Fishes Program will be Monday, April 19th, at 4:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in helping out at the kitchen can meet at the church to carpool to Springfield.

Men's Prayer Time is held weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. This half-hour includes a devotional reading, prayer, and a time of refreshments and fellowships.

All are welcome to this very special time. For more information, contact Rev. Fuller at 786-7111.

The Adult Bible Discussion Group will meet each first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:45 p.m., following the 7:00 p.m. Midweek Service. The next Discussion Group will meet on April 21st.

All are invited to attend this informal, non-threatening, fun group. For more information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

Mark your calendars today! A Baked Ham Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 1st, at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults, and \$4 for children under 12. Call the church office for reservations at 786-7111.

The Fifth Annual Cabaret will be held on Saturday, May 15th, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. A dinner will be served before the entertainment. Cost is \$12 for adults, and \$6 for children 10 and under. All proceeds will benefit the "Organ Restoration Fund."

Join us for a night of beautiful music and fellowship. Call the church office for more information or to reserve your tickets, 786-7111.

A Campership Auction will be held on Sunday, May 16th, following the Worship Service. Crafts, services, baked goods, and more will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

All money received will be put in the Campership Fund for children and adults to attend camps this summer.

Events Calendar From Valley Community Church

Valley Community Church would like to welcome fellow Christians to join them in their worship services and fellowship activities. We are located at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, MA, high atop the hill overlooking the valley. Our worship services are at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, followed by Sunday School and Adult Bible Class.

This Sunday, April 18th, our interim minister, Pastor Robert Loesch, will lead us with a continuing series of sermons based on the seven different churches in Asia Minor to which the Book of Revelations was addressed. This week's message is based on the second church found in Revelation 2: 8-11 and is titled "Be Faithful Unto Death - The Church At Smyrna."

We also invite the public to come to a Pancake Breakfast on April 24th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., sponsored by our young people. They will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, juice, coffee, and muffins — all for \$4.50 for adults, and \$3.50 for children under 12. The money is being used to assist our new minister, Rev. Gene de Jough, and his family move from Cedarville, Illinois, in June.

Please call the church at (413) 786-2445 for reservations or for more information about Valley Community Church.

Valley Community Church To Sponsor Dinner Theatre

Everyone is familiar with the story of Adam and Eve, but according to Mark Twain?

The Valley Community Church is sponsoring a dinner theatre on May 8th at 5:00 p.m., which will feature the musical "Adam and Eve from The Apple Tree," based on the short story by Mark Twain.

This lively, hilarious, and revealing look at how "we all began" will be presented at The Red Door Theatre, following a spaghetti supper to be held downstairs at Valley Community Church.

The cost for the entire evening is only \$12.50 per adult, and \$7.50 for children under 12.

Reservations are a must and may be made by calling the church at (413) 786-2445, or The Red Door Theatre at (413) 789-2026.

"Church News" is a weekly feature of The AAN...

News & Notes From St. John's Parish

FR. HULLER MEMORIAL

Plans are being formalized for the dedication of the lower church Religious Education area in memory of Fr. Karl Huller, who made a lasting impression on the community of St. John's with much upbuilding.

When details are worked out by the Parish Council, we will make them public.

YOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

With springtime comes the annual nomination and election of one-third of the Parish Council, five members for a three-year term.

The Nominating Committee is soliciting names of those who would like to be nominated and those who should be nominated. Will you help?

Please fill out and return the form below in the collection basket soon.

☐ I would like to be nominated

☐ I would like to recommend

for a three-year term on St. John's Parish Council. Name

JUBILEE 2000

Would you like to get in on the planning? Call any member of the committee and let them know how you can help: Bert Bertolino (786-1449), Paul Briere (789-4551), Pat Drewniak (786-7270), Sr. Fran Gloster (786-8105), or Sr. Frank White (786-4499). It will not be the same without you.

CLOWNS WANTED

The Parish Picnic will be coming up in August. We are preparing already and looking for anyone who would like to develop the little 'bit of clown' which is in all of us. Interested in a rudimentary course and even learn the animal balloon craft? Just call Mariann Green at 593-5764.

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SUNDAY

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10:30 A.M. - Morning Service

Series - "Biblical Portraits"
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6:00 P.M. - Evening Services
Series - "Immortality"

FRIDAY

6:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Awana Clubs Youth Program
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Church News - continued...

Women's Sunday At First Baptist

Women of all ages will come together to present a special worship celebration this Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church.

Guest speaker will be Stella Ordonez, immediate past president of the American Baptist Women. She has held various positions in the State Board of Managers for ABW.

The theme for the service is "Practicing Christian Love." There will be special music presented by Jennie & Carmen Oyola and Mercy Barnes. Also assisting in the morning's program are Donna Modzelewski, Amber Paradysz, Nancy Williams, Linda Dalla Pegorara, Lisa McLaughlin, Jennifer Lock, Joyce Bailey, Edith Gottsche, Yvette Ramos-Bishop, Joanna Aversa, and Marianne Tompkins.

The love gift offering will be received at this service.

Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship in Davis Hall, at which time attendees can greet Mrs. Ordonez.

Classes will be held as usual until 11:45 a.m., with nursery care provided.

On Tuesday, April 20th, the Mr. & Mrs. Club is planning a special program. Henry LaFleur, or "Key-Mho-Saw-Bee," hiked the entire length of the Appalachian Trail without interruption. The 2,158-mile trail took six months to complete.

Mr. LaFleur will be presenting a slide show using electronically timed multiple projectors to depict the beauty, majesty, and wonders he experienced on this historic trail. Blend instrumental music complements the scenes and the seasons. A personal narrative gives physical, mental, and emotional experiences along the way.

If you are not a "regular" at Mr. & Mrs. Club meetings and would like to attend this meeting, call Howard & Nina Bailey, so we can save a spot for you.

On Friday, April 23rd, the Youth leaders will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. to begin a retreat. They will travel to the South Newfane, Vermont vacation home of Howard & Nina Bailey, where they will spend Friday evening and Saturday in worship and study before returning home late Saturday.

For more details, contact John Barber.

Free Oil Change At Bethany Church

Bethany Assembly of God is sponsoring a FREE car oil change and filter to single women/moms of Agawam on Saturday, May 8th from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon in the church parking lot (580 Main Street).

Please call the church office for an appointment (789-2930).



AT TROOP 551'S "FASHION EXTRAVAGANZA" at Feeding Hills Congregational Church (from left to right): Lauren Longhi, Brittany Michel, Kelly MacIntyre, Meghan Henry, choreographer Rebecca Niemiec, Stephanie Gingras, and Tara Walker. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.



"WE'RE READY FOR THE BEACH!!!": Troop 551 members Kelsey Wood, Jessica Kodess, Caitlin Hurley, Caitlin Niemiec, K'lyn Cameron, and Lauren Siedel. Advertiser News photo

by Jack Devine.

Girl Scout Troop 551 Holds "Fashion Extravaganza" At F.H. Congregational

For several months, the girls of Troop 551 have been diligently working on their "Looking Your Best" badge. All their hard work paid off on March 31st, when a "Fashion Extravaganza" was held.

The festivities kicked off with the girls performing an original dance number called "Welcome to Miami."

Following that, an enthusiastic audience was delighted to see a fashion show featuring a variety of beachwear and an outfit of each girl's choice.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation

of badges and was followed by refreshments for all.

That's not all Troop 551 has been up to. In December, the halls of Country Estates echoed with Christmas spirit when the girls stopped by for a night of caroling.

Recently, a night of fun was had by all when the entire troop and their families attended "Disney on Ice."

Now that the cookies sales are winding down and the weather is getting better, we'll be looking to the great outdoors for our next projects. We'll keep you posted!

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Church News - continued...



Reflections...
submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
toll free (877) 643-9801

Only A Living Savior Could Rescue A Dying World

I've often wondered what it would have been like to be alive in the days of Jesus. If I had been around Him, would I have believed in Him? So many silly religious people these days speak of Jesus as some sort of a great teacher (and then, nothing more than that), but Jesus was hardly a great teacher. Great teachers impart vast knowledge, often on a variety of subjects. Jesus' message was far more simple, far more challenging: "Believe in Me!" Could I have been one of those who did believe in Him? Would I have been?

I'm so glad to live on this side of the first Easter Sunday! It's easier for me to believe in Jesus, and what He said about Himself, and His promises of eternal life, because God validated everything Jesus said when He raised Him from the dead. Easter is, among other things, a symbol. It is a symbol signifying that we can and should recognize Jesus Christ as more than just a great prophet.

While Easter is a symbol, it certainly is not limited to being just a symbol. Sadly, some people have relegated Easter to just that status, a symbol of hope, but nothing more. Such symbols are merely empty or hollow. The hope they supposedly offer is no hope at all.

We can more easily and convincingly prove, on an historical basis, that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead that first Easter morning than that George Washington was born in the first place. Most Americans would agree that George Washington was in fact born, since he was also the first President of our country. Nevertheless, there is more historical proof available to demonstrate the actual resurrection of Jesus than that George Washington was born!

For many people, myself included, the fact of Jesus' resurrection is what our faith leans upon. Someone might think, that's not good; that's not much of a faith. Quite the contrary! The Bible itself says, if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Being raised from the dead is what sets Jesus apart from other prophets and great religious leaders down through the ages. They are all in their graves, but not Jesus! But, in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. Hallelujah, our faith is not in vain!

There are those who insist that Jesus' resurrection was a story concocted by Jesus' disciples in an effort to keep their movement going. That's sheer foolishness. Even though Jesus had repeatedly told His disciples about His impending death and resurrection, they were most surprised when He first appeared to them afterwards. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Perhaps He needed to say this because they were startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost. He even asked them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after His resurrection, and they, in turn, have shown Him to us. The victory of Easter is a sign to us that all the wonderful promises Jesus made about God are true after all. Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples; these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name.

Annual Rummage Sale Slated At Sacred Heart Church

The Annual Rummage Sale at Sacred Heart Church will be held in the Parish Center on Thursday, April 22nd.

There will be two halls filled with clean, wearable clothing for the whole family plus household linens, blankets, etc.

There also will be a room of Attic Treasures. The sale runs from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. You can return from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. and fill a bag (provided) for \$3. This is only from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. The sale is sponsored by members of Sacred Heart Parish.

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our Sunday morning service of worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

The Lector this week will be Lani Kretschmar. The Scripture readings for the third Sunday of Easter will be Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is, "Where the Lord Is Really Alive."

Children are invited to attend worship with their parents, leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Following worship, we will have an Offering of Letters workshop in support of Bread for the World. Many prominent religious leaders have endorsed the call for debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries as an expression of Biblical principle of Jubilee (Leviticus 25).

"Proclaim Jubilee: Break the Chains of Debt" is the focus for the 1999 Offering of Letters. Sample letters and supplies will be provided.

Our evening hour of worship, which is usually scheduled for the last Sunday of the month, will take place instead this month on April 18th so that all may attend the anniversary celebration of the MACUCC on April 25th.

The evening worship will begin as usual at 6:30 p.m. Worshippers are encouraged to bring a

favorite poem, story, or song to share.

There will be a quilting social here on Saturday, April 17th, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

All are welcome to bring a current project to work on. Beginners are always welcome.

All members are reminded that the MACUCC Bi-Centennial Celebration takes place on Sunday, April 25th, at the Worcester Centrum. A bus has been hired so that we may travel together.

The bus leaves from the Agawam Congregational Church at 8:00 a.m. on that Sunday.

On the calendar:

Friday, April 16th: 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight, Creative Memories.

Saturday, April 17th: 8:30 a.m., Agawam Parish Association (at Sacred Heart); 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Quilting Social.

Sunday, April 18th: 10:00 a.m., Worship Service; Bread for the World Offering of Letters; 2:00 p.m., Cub Scout pack meeting; 6:30 p.m., Worship Service.

Monday, April 19th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

Tuesday, April 20th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

Wednesday, April 21st: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Music Committee; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, April 22nd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Agawam Catholic Women's Club Schedules "Fashion Show" For Thursday, April 22nd

Selected members of the Agawam Catholic Women's Club will serve as models to show off the latest summer and spring styles at a "Fashion Show" to be presented by the Club at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 22nd. The public is invited to the gala revue, which will be presented in the social center of St. John the Evangelist Church on Main Street.

Models will be Angela Beaudry, Betty Jury, Danielle DeForge, Maureen Fullam, Peggy Lep-

per, Joan Malinoski, Carol Pignatara, Paula Raiche, Jane Trevethan, Joan Teahan, and Jackie Toussaint.

Lil Doyle and Paula Raiche are chairpersons of the show. There will be wine and cheese before the main event, and refreshments will be served during the intermission. There will be door and raffle prizes.

Committee members are selling the \$8 tickets.

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Spotlight On Business



VICTOR CARRA (right), Executive Vice President of Westfield Bank, recently presented a \$5,000 check on behalf of the bank to Stephen T. Clay, President of the YMCA of Greater Springfield. The donation will be used primarily for youth programs at both the North End Youth Center and Camp Weber.

Westfield Bank Donates To Greater Springfield YWCA

Westfield Bank President Donald A. Williams recently announced that the Bank has donated \$5,000 to the YWCA of Greater Springfield. The primary use of the funds will be for youth programs at both the North End Youth Center and Camp Weber.

At the check presentation to Stephen T. Clay, YMCA President, Victor Carra, Executive Vice President of the Bank, noted that, "Westfield Bank has been and will continue to be a strong supporter of the programs provided by the YMCA. With our new location in downtown Springfield opening later this year, providing funding to support Springfield youth programs becomes an even more important goal for us."

Mr. Clay noted that, "The need for safe, structured activities for young people in the non-school hours continues to be a major need of young people in all communities. These funds will help to guarantee that constructive, enjoyable alternatives to hanging out on the street corners are available to inner-city youth. We are delighted that Westfield Bank has chosen to support the YMCA of Greater Springfield and its work with youth."

Westfield Bank is one of the largest community banks in the area with assets of more than \$580 million. The bank, founded in 1853, maintains its headquarters in Westfield. Branches are located in West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick, and East Longmeadow.

* * *

*Our office will be open on
Monday, April 19th (Pa-
triot's Day) ... AAN!!!*

* * *

Check our classified ads in each edition...



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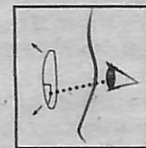
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Spotlight On Business - continued...



Timely Tips On
How To Manage
Your Finances

by Sue N. Alvanos
Personal Financial Advisor
American Express
534-3883.

Estate Planning Puts You In Control...

Were you born with a silver spoon in your mouth? Most of us weren't. So as we get older, we may tune out when we hear or read about estate planning, assuming it's only for the rich.

People with modest means need estate planning even more than wealthy people. That's because our dependents and loved ones could have more to lose if we leave them with unnecessary administrative and attorney fees, probate costs, and estate taxes. Each dollar in our estates may mean more to our families than the fortunes in estates of wealthier people.

What exactly is estate planning? It is simply controlling what happens in three vital areas of your life:

1. Your assets.
2. Your needs and plans for the unexpected.
3. Protecting your dependents and leaving a legacy.

Your assets. When we think about assets, the first thing to come to mind is hard cash. But additional assets are also counted as part of an estate for federal taxation purposes. Generally, your estate includes the fair market value of everything you own or have an interest in on the date of your death.

This could include the current value of your home (not its original price tag), the proceeds of any insurance policies you own, the total of all your retirement accounts, stocks and bonds, personal property such as a car, jewelry and antique collections, and (of course) money in your bank accounts.

Generally, estates valued at more than \$650,000 in 1999 are subject to a federal estate tax rate of 37 percent or higher and sometimes subject to state taxes, if assets are passed on to anyone other than a spouse. With proper estate planning, you may be able to leave assets to your heirs instead of to the tax collector.

There is another reason to do comprehensive estate planning that's not tangible. We've all heard about family members who stop speaking to each other after a parent dies because of hurt feelings over mom's rocking chair or dad's coin collection. Even small estates can be big trouble when emotions are involved. Take time to list some of those items and ask your attorney to add them to your will. Finally, if you have children, it's essential to remember to name guardians for your children.

Your needs and plans for the unexpected. Estate planning isn't just for what happens at death — it is about what happens during life. These four documents, part of anyone's estate plan, can make your wishes clear and avoid placing extra burdens on your loved ones:

1. **A will.** This is your plan for your assets. If you have moved to a new state or have major changes in your life, such as divorce or remarriage, be sure to update your will.
2. **A durable power of attorney.** This names a person to make financial decisions for you should you become incapacitated.
3. **A health care power of attorney.** This names someone to make medical decisions for you should you become incapacitated.
4. **A living will.** This specifies the measures you want taken or not taken on your behalf regard life-sustaining procedures.

Protecting your dependents and leaving a legacy. Providing for a spouse or partner is vital in estate planning. We may also want to give to a favorite charity. A low-cost and effective way to do both can be through insurance. In fact, in the case of a charitable gift, if the charity owns the insurance policy outright, premium payments are considered gifts and may be fully and currently deductible. Giving back to our communities or contributing to a greater good can be the legacy that survives us.

Obviously, estate planning is necessary for the very wealthy; but it is also for people who have saved coins in a sugar bowl and worked hard for what they have. A financial advisor specializing in estate planning and an attorney in elder law may be the most valuable asset you can have for future peace of mind.

Sue N. Alvanos' "Timely Tips..." is a regular feature of the Advertiser News.

* * *

Westbank Corporation Signs Agreement To Acquire New London Trust's CT Banking Div.

As part of its strategy of regional expansion through acquisitions, Westbank Corporation has announced the signing of a Branch Purchase Agreement with the Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance to acquire the Connecticut banking division of New London Trust, F.S.B., New London, NH. Phoenix Home Life is a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Hartford, CT.

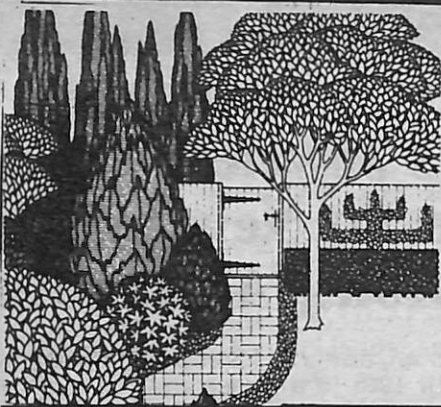
"The opportunity to add the Connecticut division of New London Trust to our recently acquired Cargill Bank subsidiary is extremely compelling," said Donald R. Chase, President and Chief Executive Officer of Westbank Corporation. "We become the bank with the leading deposit market share in Northeast Connecticut. At the same time, we obtain an extremely competent senior management team to augment our Cargill Bank staff. Finally, it is immediately accretive to cash earnings per share," he commented.

The Connecticut division of New London Trust

operates offices in Danielson and Putnam, CT, with assets totaling \$110 million. The acquisition, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of this year. Upon completion, the New London Trust offices in Danielson and Putnam, CT, will become offices of Cargill Bank, which will operate five banking offices with a total of \$165 million in assets.

Cargill Bank is a well-respected local community bank that is dedicated to continuing New London Trust's commitment to superior customer service, active community involvement, and local decision-making.

Westbank Corporation is also the parent company of Park West Bank and Trust Company, a Massachusetts chartered commercial bank. The combined assets of the Corporation upon completion of the acquisition will be in excess of \$525 million.



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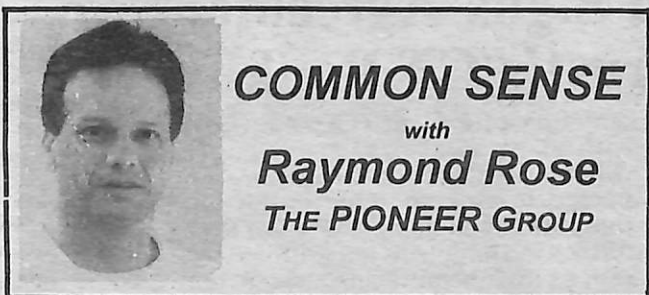
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Shrubs & Trees being dug daily

Landscape Design & Planting

Spotlight On Business - continued...

COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
THE PIONEER GROUP

Inspection Fever...

Get out that clipboard and let's make sure everything is OK ... let's look for damage that was caused by winter or because you failed to put things away properly in the fall.

- How is the trim doing? With a flat blade screwdriver, check for soft spots (rot and insect damage). Are any shutters loose, peeling, or fallen?

- From a ladder at the edge of your roof, look for damaged shingles, missing tiles, debris on the roof.

- Examine the chimney brick. Is there a screen and cap on the top, or can water and an occasional squirrel come in?

- Do the trees and shrubs hang too close to the home, or are there obvious trimming needs?

- Are the triple track storm windows in proper position? Typically, the outermost window is the top storm, then the lower storm, then the screen.

- Are there weep holes in the base of the storm window to allow rain to escape?

- Are leader pipe drains clean and clear, and do they direct water away from the home?

- Lubricating slider doors and screens can improve ease of operation and reduce damage from debris. When you install the screen insert in your storm door, don't forget to change the location on the tension closer.

- Clean or replace furnace/air handler filters monthly during the heating season.

- Open crawlspace vents and make sure your attic vent grills are open.

- Remember to turn on water to outside faucets, and to turn off exterior valves.

- Clean skylights (glass with glass cleaner; plastic with warm, soapy water only).

- Uncover AC units and have professionally check annually.

Raymond Rose is the Principal of THE PIONEER GROUP, a professional real estate firm that represents home buyers only. Comments/questions can be directed to his office (731-6800) or his e-mail (RayRose111@aol.com). Also, contact him via e-mail to receive his FREE online newsletter, "THE PIONEER REPORT - Online."

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

* * *



ZIN G. TOKMAN, owner of T's Jewelers.

T's Jewelers To Move To New Locale On Mon., April 19th

Zin G. Tokman, owner of T's Jewelers, will move Monday, April 19th to a larger and more convenient location at 559 Springfield St, Feeding Hills (next to Groomingdale's).

In 1981, Zin moved to Agawam from Kiev, Ukraine. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Kiev. He became a certified master jeweler and engraver.

In the United States, he graduated from Gemological Institute of America. In 1995, he became a certified Gemologist C.G.

What makes the difference between T's Jewelers and many other jewelry stores? First of all, the knowledge. Second, personal service, which includes expertly done diamond remounts, repairs and restorations, engraving, costume design, and antique work. T's Jewelers offers superb diamonds and gemstones.

Brokerage and appraising, combined with the ability to satisfy customers, makes T's one of the finest jewelers around.

T's Jewelers also specializes in antique and collectible items, gems, and precious metals.

Store hours are Monday, 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The shop is closed on Wednesday and Sunday.

If you give T's Jewelers a try, you will not regret it!

PIONEER GROUP Announces Latest Staff Appointments

THE PIONEER GROUP, the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts that services homebuyers exclusively, is proud to announce the following:

- Christopher Camerlin of East Longmeadow has joined the firm as a Senior Associate and will be servicing the Hampden & Hampshire County areas.

- Jeffrey M. Rose has been promoted to the position of Exclusive Buyer's Agent and will focus on serving first-time homebuyers.

- David Cobleigh was named an Exclusive Buyer's Agent and will be working in the firm's Wilbraham/Hampden/Monson Marketing Division.

- Gary Lucia has been named the company's Internet Administrator and will be responsible for the design and content of the company's Internet web site.

As Exclusive Buyer's Agents, THE PIONEER GROUP morally, legally, and ethically represents homebuyers only, and, as opposed to most other real estate firms that represent both buyers and sellers, by representing buyers only, it avoids any potential conflicts of interest involved in purchasing a home.

For more information on their services, along with the ability to shop for homes online, please visit their award-winning web site at www.pioneer-group.com, or call 731-6800 to speak directly to an associate.

* * *

"Spotlight On Business" is a regular feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS and is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week.

* * *

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Our Daily Bread

READ:
Acts 26:1-8

Why should it be thought incredible by you that God raises the dead? —Acts 26:8

for 3,000 years—then resurrected. That's amazing!

Why then should it be thought incredible that God should raise the dead? That was the surprised question of Paul to King Agrippa (Acts 26:8). If God could take some dust and breathe life into it to create a man (Gen. 2:7), why would anyone think it incredible for this same God to raise someone from the dead?

Yes, it is most credible that Jesus would arise. It would be incredible if after the miraculous life He lived He had remained in the grave. Hallelujah! Christ arose! —MRD

*Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign. —Lowry*

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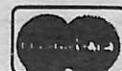


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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Supermarket - Slip And Fall Injury

Where a judge found for the plaintiff in a personal injury case brought following a slip and fall in a supermarket, the judge acted permissibly based on evidence that the defendant supermarket was negligent in its inspection of the condition of its aisles.

"Not only did the defendant's employees fail to discover (a) foreign substance on the floor - it took the assistance of a fellow customer to find the plaintiff laying on the floor and minutes passed before an employee of the store was summoned to the scene by that customer. Such casualness on the part of the defendant's employees and the lack of any reasonable and periodic inspection of the aisle ways in evidence of negligence."

A trial judge is entitled to weigh the evidence and resolve all questions of credibility, ambiguity, and contradiction in reaching a decision. Those findings of fact should not be overturned unless clearly erroneous.

The length of time allowed to discover and remedy a hazardous condition depends on the opportunity for discovery open to the defendant's employees by reason of their number, their physical proximity to the condition in question and in general the likelihood that they would become aware of the condition in the normal performance of their duties.

It is reasonable for the judge to infer based on the totality of circumstances that the defendant failed to exercise reasonable measures to insure that the surface of the customer aisle ways was free of any hazards.

In the instant case, the court found that the defendant was negligent in that it knew or should have known of the slick oily substance.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

Pam Savioli

Landry, Lyons & Better
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(413) 748-7565



At Ease And Ready To Sell...

To sell your home, you'll need more than ads and signs. You need a proven strategy for attracting the best buyer to your home.

The primary job of a real estate professional is to cause the home to sell. Here are some ways a real estate professional can make the home-selling process easier for you:

- Helping you set the right price for your home to attract the right buyers and the sales associates who work with them.
- Gathering data that will present your house and neighborhood in the best light.
- Targeting the market where the most likely buyers will be.
- Accessing the local real estate market and relocation network.
- Handling calls from people who may be more curious than serious about buying.
- Showing your home to the best prospects.
- Representing you during the offer process.
- Doing the necessary paperwork and legwork.
- Guiding you through settlement.

For more information about selling your home, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

For photo coverage in The AAN, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Thank you!

From Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta...

To Build Or Not To Build — Which Renovations Truly Boost Home Value?

If you build it, they will come. But will they buy? Renovations can be the determining factor in a sale. Homeowners are spending more than ever on remodeling — a record \$88 billion in the year ended September 1998, according to the Harvard University Joint Center for Housing Studies. But which renovations truly increase the market value of a home, versus those renovations that increase the comfort of a home's inhabitants?

Kitchens and bathrooms tend to top the list for remodeling, according to Doug Mason, sales associate at Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth, Michigan. "Dollar for dollar, you get more return on your investment by updating these two living quarters. Of course, improvements vary based on the individual home. If something, such as a roof, is worn or in shabby condition, it may hurt a sale more so than a fabulous kitchen remodeling will help."

Other surveyed COLDWELL BANKER® sales associates note that there are other improvements that might increase the marketability of a home, but won't necessarily increase its sales price. Two improvements many homeowners choose to add are upgraded landscaping and swimming pools. Both of these, however, won't necessarily add value and, in some cases, can deter potential buyers.

For example, homeowners can pay between \$2,000 and \$15,000 for the same landscaping job, but a home buyer may not be able to tell the difference regarding the amount of money spent. Furthermore, that beautiful landscaping might be

covered with snow if the house is put up for sale during the winter months, or it might become frail and brittle-looking during a too dry summer.

Homeowners who are looking to add an in-ground pool should view a pool as an investment in quality of life. The value of a pool is measured more in terms of the enjoyment of having one as opposed to measurement of a good return. While in some areas of the country, pools can limit the number of potential buyers, in warmer climates pools can often help attract offers.

In addition to large renovations, there are options for those seeking to make improvements for a quick sale. Interior and exterior painting can dramatically refresh a tired-looking house. New windows, siding, and gutters can also help a house sell faster and add to its curb appeal.

If sellers are able to do one thing in terms of renovations, Mason recommends keeping it clean. "Get rid of overly decorated wallpaper and add a coat of neutral paint. It makes your home more appealing to a potential buyer."

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE:CD), has more than 2,900 independently owned and operated franchised real estate offices and over 69,000 sales associates throughout North America.

COLDWELL BANKER Online® can be accessed at <http://www.coldwellbanker.com>. For more than 90 years, the COLDWELL BANKER system has been North America's premier full-service provider of real estate services.

Gladys Burr Is An Administrative Assistant With CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc.

CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc. is pleased to announce that Gladys Burr has joined its company as an Administrative Assistant.

"Gladys will be responsible for the daily activity of maintaining our web site, Multiple Listing Service (MLS) records, and customer/client database," said John Schuler, Broker/Owner of CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc.

"We believe by creating this position and selecting Gladys to fill it, our sales associates will be able to maintain their competitive edge by continuing to offer the best quality of service possible to their customers and clients," added Jane David, Sales Manager.

Gladys Burr is not a newcomer to the real estate industry. She began her career with the Greater Springfield Association of REALTORS in 1973. During Gladys' 25-plus years with the Association, she held several key positions, including membership coordinator. Gladys resides in Agawam and has four children and grandchildren in Texas and Florida.

CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., located in the Southgate Shopping Center in Agawam, provides real estate services to many communities in the Greater Springfield and the Pioneer Valley areas. They can be reached at 789-1117.

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* * * * *



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For Your Health

Fitness Tips...

Keeping Track, A Valuable Task

by Carmela A. Kirk, RN
Fitness Director, Fitness First

Training logs of some form or another are a valuable tool. They help you remember details of your workout. They help you monitor the frequency and intensity that you are working.

They not only help keep track of your progress, but will also ensure adequate rest between workouts. Keeping track of your cardiovascular work is just as important as keeping track of your resistance training.

There are lots of things you can keep track of from workout basics, to how you felt, to what you ate, to what you thought... I will go over some important basics to cover. The rest is purely your choice.

To track cardiovascular exercise, it is important to document date, duration, intensity. Optional areas are heart rates, activity, perceived exertion, and whatever else you think of. The date or at least day will help you at a glance to determine your frequency of work that week. This is important. If you notice improvement or lack of, you can see what it was that caused that outcome.

Duration, or how long you worked, is important for similar reasons. This is good to chart and plan increases to the length of your workout. Intensity or how hard you are working can be documented by heart rate, or make a scale, 1-10; 10 being very hard. This is important so you know which level to train at on different days. If you worked very intensely for 40 minutes on Monday, you may want to work easier, but longer, on Tuesday.

To track resistance training, it is important to keep track of the date for the same reasons as above. This time, you do want to document the actual exercise you are doing. How much weight you are lifting - that's important to document progress. You also document repetitions, how many times you lift the weight, and sets, how many groups of times you lifted.

This will help you know when to increase weights. As you are able to do more, you increase weights. We discussed overload last week, so I won't go too much into that.

Keeping track can sometimes be a pain. It also is always a very valuable tool. Take the time to do some form of documentation. Not only for the reasons listed, but also, it gives each workout validity, importance, and the attention it needs.

* * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you...

* * *



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Gardening, Landscaping, & Your Back

Well, spring is finally here. Many Agawam and Feeding Hills residents have begun the arduous task of cleaning up their yards after an unusually tough, long winter.

There's nothing more flattering to a home than a well-kept yard, well-trimmed shrubs, and well-tended flower beds. Likewise, a bountiful vegetable garden is most flattering to its owner and a good pastime...sometimes. Unfortunately, all too often it is painful for its participants.

Gardening and landscaping are great, if you recognize that they are activities that produce certain body stresses; if you recognize your own physical limitations; and if you do them with good sense as well as enthusiasm.

Most people hibernate all winter. Then, at the first sign of spring, try to make their lawns or gardens the most attractive on the block - all in one day. They dig, dig, dig, ... lift, lift, lift, ... bend, bend, bend. The result is ouch, ouch, OUCH! Their backs hurt, their muscles ache, and they wonder why.

Doctors of chiropractic, whose health-care services emphasize the structural integrity of the body, offer the following "golden rules" of gardening.

1. Warm-up your muscles to the task you're about to start.
2. Don't bend over for long periods of time without taking standing breaks.
3. Don't lift more than you can handle.
4. Wear clothing that does not restrict or confine your movements.
5. Wear flat, comfortable shoes that offer firm support.
6. Use the proper tool for each job.
7. Avoid becoming overheated or chilled.
8. Avoid iced drinks when overheated.
9. Avoid doing your work in an awkward position.
10. If you injure yourself or have aches and pains that don't subside in a few days, see a health specialist.
11. As a preventive measure against disorders resulting from a strained or sprained spinal column, have periodic chiropractic spinal examinations. Call us at 789-1369 or 789-1073.

Don't let those beautiful chrysanthemums give you an ugly pain in the back.

Our office will be open on Monday, April 19th (Patriots' Day) ... AAN!!!

Support Groups, Courses, & Programs At Noble Hospital

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield. Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, April 28th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke, spouses, caregivers, and other interested persons.

Diabetes: Tuesday, April 27th, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

COURSES/PROGRAMS/CLINICS

Free Athletic Injury Clinic: Thursday, April 29th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports and Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

On the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month, a certified athletic trainer will evaluate athletic injuries. Then, based upon the evaluation, remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery with Dr. Gary Russolillo: Tuesday, April 20th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. In Conference Room B at Noble Hospital.

Gary Russolillo, M.D., will present a lecture about Body Contouring, Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures. Also included will be a live chemical peel demonstration.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Registration is free, and seating is limited.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call Noble Hospital's HEALTHBEAT at (413) 568-2328.

CPR Course: Wednesdays, April 21st and 28th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor at Noble Hospital.

This two-part course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant Certification. The cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call Noble Hospital's Education Department at (413) 572-5172.

15th Annual Run For A Noble Cause: 5-K Road Race and Kids' Race. Saturday, April 24th. Registration at 8:30 a.m. 5-K Race at 10:00 a.m.; Kids' Race at 10:45 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance or \$10 on the day of the race.

The Kids' Race is free. Awards will be given for all divisions.

Call Noble Hospital's HEALTHBEAT, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or for more information.

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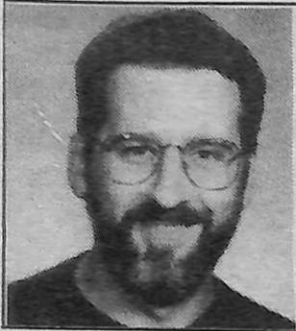
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For Your Health - continued...



"Let's Talk About It"

by Dan Pender
Marriage &
Family Therapist
P.O. Box 449
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 789-4460

The Marriage Contest?

An interesting typographical error occurred in one of my previous columns. An *Advertiser* reader asked me to write about what I meant by the **multigenerational transmission "contest."** Of course, the word should have been **"context."**

When we talk about marriage, some might view this relationship more as a "contest" between individuals, rather than trying to appreciate the overall "context" in which the individuals struggle to relate. Simply put, many marriages (and/or non-married couple relationships) can appear as if they are a *contest* for who gets what in the relationship.

Do your relationships always have to come down to EITHER/OR thinking? *Either* I get my way or you get yours! The inevitable lose/lose scenario. On the other hand, is it possible for your relationship to have BOTH/AND thinking? *Both* of you accommodating and compromising and each giving and receiving something in return for yourselves in the process. The win/win scenario. Probably your marriage or relationship context has both *either/or* and *both/and* behavior.

Couples who present being out of balance due to over-utilizing the *either/or* approach, I find are helped by learning how to communicate using, more often than not, the *both/and* approach. What does this approach look and sound like?

Last month, I wrote about the difference between the "You" and "I" position we take when talking with another person. As way of review: the "You" position often connotes and can quickly turn into "blaming" and "pointing of fingers." For example, "You never feed the kids or drive them anywhere!"

This type of statement generally leads to reactivity and escalation of tension that may already exist. Whereas, framing the concern as a question (i.e., "Would you like to feed the kids or drive them tomorrow night?"), depending on the tone of voice and emotions behind the way the question has been asked, generally invites a response, rather than a reaction that encourages overall communication.

The blaming "You" statement generally has the markings of *either/or* thinking. Of course, depending on the level of anxiety and stress the relationship is attempting to manage and/or can absorb, *either/or* thinking can work for you and prove non-problematic.

Especially when not blaming, it could sound like, "Either you feed the kids now and relax later while I clean up after dinner or I'll feed them now and relax later." But more often than not, especially when tension is high, this negotiated *either/or* type of thinking goes out the window.

Another option that works to help de-escalate the tension is attempting to use a *both/and* solution approach. However, there is an important disclaimer to this *both/and* focus in order for it to be most effective. While this approach can still be beneficial for the individual least caught up in their own reactivity, it works best when the other person is working toward **not being reactive** as well.

Then both can offer their "I" position, as much as possible, in order to provide the opportunity to create calm and greater relationship balance. For example, one person attempts to de-escalate the tension by the statement/question: "How about we **both** work together feeding the kids by taking turns (without negative criticism from the other) and I will clean up after while you bathe the children?"

Whether there are children or not impacting the relationship, the obvious ingredient to achieve the optimum result for all parties is a dual-willingness (not necessarily equal willingness) to **co-work** on the presenting situation. This does not mean both parties necessarily agree, but are at least able to openly communicate about their differences.

If this is not even possible, then there are probably other relationship issues needing further attention. One such block to healthy relationships is grasped best by understanding the concept of **relationship triangles**. This is an important relationship dynamic we'll spend more time *talking about*.

In the meantime, please e-mail or write me with your feedback, relationship questions, and topics and "Let's Talk About It."

Dan Pender, MA, MFT, is a Marriage & Family Therapist with a private practice in Agawam, MA. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy and can be reached by "e-mail" (look for address in his advertisement) or "P.O. Box 449," Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 789-4460.

Medical West Associates To Present Program On Women's Health Issues On April 28th

Medical West Associates, a multi-specialty medical group practice, invites you to a delicious dessert buffet and the opportunity to hear experts discuss important health issues for women at "Mothers, Daughters, Doctors, and More" at The Oaks in Agawam. This program will take place from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28th.

The keynote speaker will be Beverly Loudin, M.D., who will address, "Healthy Outlooks for the New Millennium." Dr. Loudin is the Associate Director for Women's Health with Tufts Health Plan.

After the keynote address, there will be a choice of three workshops, presented by Medical

West Associates experts. Cardiologist Dr. Joan Lisak will address the "Prevention and Treatment of Heart Disease in Women"; gynecologist Dr. Jean Talati will speak about "Managing Menopause"; and clinical social worker Amy Horowitz, LICSW, will be showing how to "Catch Your Breath! A Mind-Body Approach to Stress Reduction."

A \$5 registration fee will be donated to the organization of your choice: the National Osteoporosis Foundation or the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Seating is limited, and registration is required. Please call 1-800-988-8503.

For copies of his photos in this edition, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053 ... Advertiser News!

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For Your Health - continued...



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

New Food Pyramid For Children A Tool For Parents ADA Encourages Parents To Get Involved With Kids' Eating & Exercise Habits

The release of the Food Guide Pyramid for Young Children by the USDA recently in Washington, D.C. is further evidence that children have special nutritional needs, according to The American Dietetic Association, the world's largest group of food and nutrition professionals.

Recent research in the *Journal of The American Dietetic Association* showed the health status of U.S. children has generally improved over the past three decades, however, the number of children who are overweight more than doubled. Approximately 11 percent of American children are overweight and an additional 14 percent have a body mass index between the 85th and 95th percentiles, according to the research.

"Children's nutrition is no small issue," said child nutrition expert and registered dietitian JoAnn Hattner, spokesperson for The American Dietetic Association. "There is no better time than the early years to make an impact on the longlife eating and exercise habits that contribute to health maintenance and disease prevention."

Currently, most children do not meet the USDA's recommendations, especially for the fruit, vegetable, grain, and dairy groups, according to the research. "The Food Guide Pyramid for Young Children is an important tool for establishing healthful eating habits," Hattner said.

She added that nutrition profoundly affects children's ability to learn, develop, and stay healthy and suggested that parents and caregivers take an active role in children's eating and physical activity patterns.

ADA has these suggestions for parents or caregivers:

- * Claim breakfast as a time to be together. Breakfast can be an important first step toward meeting the recommendations of the Food Guide Pyramid for Children.

- * Make family-centered changes toward healthful eating. Make mealtime pleasant. Plan, prepare, and eat meals together. * Plan for family activities to promote an active lifestyle. As role models, join kids in active play-take walks or hike together as a weekend outing, ride bikes after dinner, or play a quick game of catch after work.

The USDA's new pyramid is recommended for children two to six years-old. In 1996, ADA adapted the USDA's Food Guide Pyramid for use by children as part of its Child Nutrition and Health Campaign.

Parents and caregivers can call The American Dietetic Association hotline at 800-366-1655 during April 1999 to hear a special recorded message, to request a free copy of the fact sheet "A nutritious start helps kids learn and stay healthy" or to receive a referral to a local registered dietitian.

"Next week - "Can An Obesity Hormone Be Prescribed?"



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Agawam Health Dept. Asks Residents To Fill Out Survey

The Agawam Health Department will begin blood sugar testing to all individuals interested, by appointment only, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.

This will require those individuals to fast for at least eight hours prior to their appointment. There will be a small fee of \$2 charged.

Please call 786-0400, ext. 209 to schedule an appointment.

AGAWAM HEALTH DEPT. SURVEY

In keeping up with the times, the Health Department is interested in the health needs and concerns of our community.

Please take a few moments to help us plan needed services by answering a few of the questions below.

1. Your age _____ Male or Female _____
2. Would you attend a cholesterol screening clinic for a nominal fee?
Yes _____ No _____
3. Would you participate in a Well child clinic if it were available?
Yes _____ No _____
Ages of children in household _____
Number of children _____
4. Would you like to see a pneumonia vaccine clinic like the flue clinic offered to high risk individuals this fall?
Yes _____ No _____
5. Were you aware the town nurse holds blood pressure clinics monthly?
Yes _____ No _____
6. Did you know the Health Department offers blood sugar testing for a nominal fee?
Yes _____ No _____
7. What types of programs would you like to see offered?

Please return this survey to the Agawam Health Department, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.
Please respond by April 23, 1999.

**Our deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00
noon ... AAN!!!**

* * *

Chiropractic Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Alternative Healing

People often seek alternative forms of healing. Many of these healing therapies have been found beneficial. Oftentimes, patients will ask me about different therapies. The following definitions were taken from the Encyclopedia of Healing Therapies:

Acupressure: commonly described as acupuncture without needles. Finger and thumb pressure is applied to acupoints to relieve specific conditions and promote harmony and good health.

Acupuncture: part of traditional Chinese medicine. Practitioners insert fine, sterile needles into specific points on the body as a treatment for disorders ranging from asthma to alcohol addiction. In the West, it is most often used for pain relief.

Ayurveda: the major traditional holistic healing system of the Indian subcontinent. Practitioners believe well-being is affected by three vital energies that constantly fluctuate. Treatment can include purifying techniques, diet, yoga postures, and breathing exercises.

Homeopathy: based on the theory of "like cures like." A poison that causes symptoms of illness in a healthy person can treat the same symptoms when used in minute amounts in one who is ill.

Hypnotherapy: practitioners induce a state of consciousness akin to deep daydreaming in which the patient is deeply relaxed and open to suggestion and can be desensitized to fears, phobias, or pain.

Reiki: a form of Japanese spiritual healing. Practitioners draw on "reiki energy" and channel it to areas of need in themselves and their patients.

Yoga: a complete system of body postures and breathing techniques, originally developed (in India) as a preparation for spiritual development.

Hopefully, this list answered some of your questions about what exactly these alternative therapies are.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

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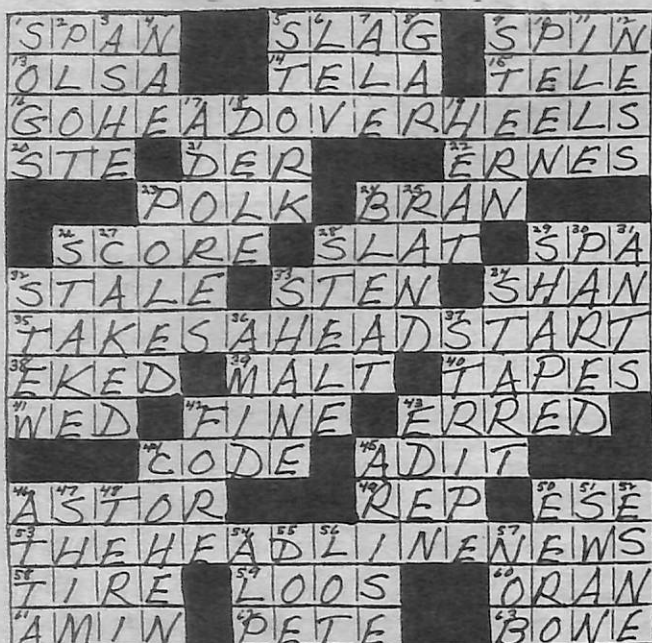
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Last Week's Solution...



ACROSS

- 1 Biblical land
- 5 Numbers man
- 8 Vamp Negri
- 12 Car salesman's loan out
- 16 Actor Lugosi
- 17 Feel the aches
- 19 French idea
- 20 Roman road
- 21 Like certain eagles
- 22 Coastal birds
- 23 Truth stretcher
- 24 ETO battle site
- 25 Scourge from the east
- 29 Pot builder
- 30 Stripling
- 31 Red, Dead, or Coral
- 32 Emulates Hans Brinker
- 35 Actor Ameche
- 36 Wasting away
- 40 Garret
- 41 Gulags
- 44 Lotion additive
- 45 Moray
- 46 Millions of years
- 47 Sicilian mount
- 48 Thuggee's weapon
- 50 Baseball's Hersher
- 52 Ford that failed
- 53 Amur River natives
- 57 Freshlet
- 61 Falls behind
- 62 Puts up a fight
- 67 Melville novel
- 68 Manchurian border river
- 70 M.I.T. workplace
- 71 Brad or spad
- 72 Longest railroad in the world
- 76 "Auld Lang —"
- 77 USNA grads
- 78 Words of comprehension
- 79 Having fun
- 81 Alien's craft
- 82 M.D.'s org.
- 83 And others
- 84 Russian entry to sea of Japan
- 91 Italian city
- 92 Radio knob
- 93 Conduit
- 94 Tennis star Lendl
- 96 Persia today
- 97 English composer
- 98 "Village People" hit
- 99 Hawaiian goose
- 100 "Big —" theory
- 101 Observed
- 102 Atlantic (abbr.)
- 103 Author Zane

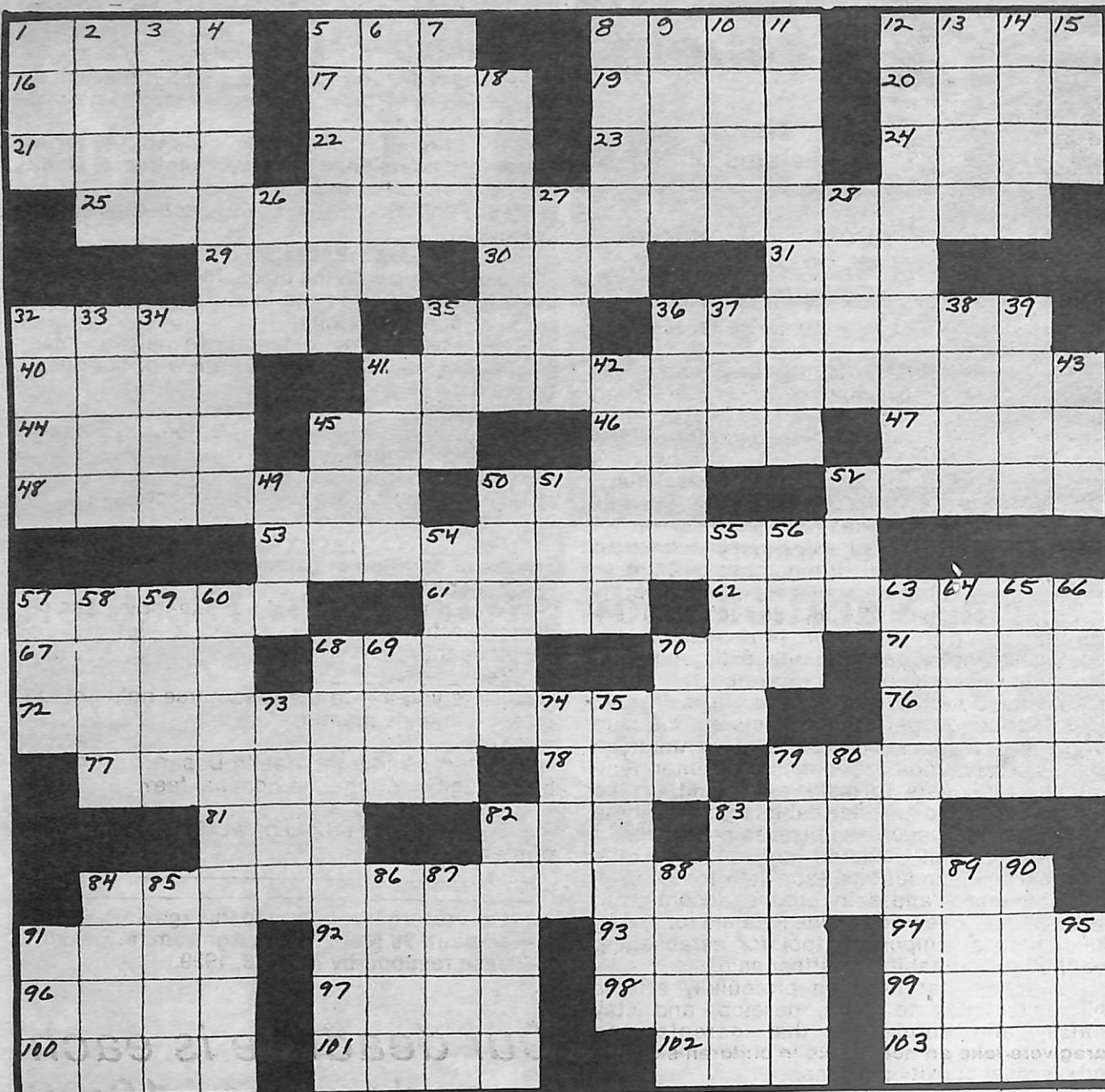
DOWN

- 1 Recede
- 2 Drip source
- 3 In the manner of

4 Alice's tea party guest

- 5 Storage compartment
- 6 Get rid of
- 7 Cartoonist Peter
- 8 Heaped up
- 9 Husband of Frigg
- 10 Wife of Jacob
- 11 Impellers in a can
- 12 Scorned
- 13 Major or kitchen extender
- 14 Allen and Gibson
- 15 Gold in Toledo
- 18 Squeal (2 wds.)
- 26 Compass direction
- 27 Actor Andrews
- 28 Work over
- 32 Refuse from a mill
- 33 Russian peninsula
- 34 "An — effort"
- 35 Dover's state
- 36 Bacterium
- 37 Director Howard
- 38 Louse eggs
- 39 Sarazen of golf
- 41 Hammer end
- 42 Ogles
- 43 Pitcher Magli
- 45 Airport abbr.
- 49 Home to a cockney
- 50 Busy mid-west terminal
- 51 Floor covering
- 52 Curvy letter
- 54 Cudgels
- 55 Galway Bay isles
- 56 Cornhuskers' state
- 57 Tippler
- 58 Opening
- 59 "— For All Seasons"
- 60 What a barber does
- 63 Nasty with words
- 64 Vocalizes
- 65 Prong
- 66 Luge
- 68 "— gold"
- 69 Part of an hr.
- 70 "— Vegas"
- 73 Prepare flour
- 74 Incarnation of Vishnu
- 75 "If — way"
- 79 Like modern music
- 80 Barker and kettle
- 82 Steve or Fred
- 83 Kick out
- 84 Prefix for trooper
- 85 Algerian port
- 86 Arsonist's delight
- 87 Pointer on a barn
- 88 "— camera"
- 89 Finished
- 90 Orson Welles' portrayal
- 91 Baby's apron
- 95 Napoleon marshall

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



Storowton Village Museum Offers Spring Vacation Program For Kids Ages 7 To 12

Children age seven through 12 can step into the 19th century and learn more about Early American Village life during Storowton Village Museum's Spring vacation program titled, "A Day Away in the Past."

The program will be offered twice, April 21st or 22nd from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

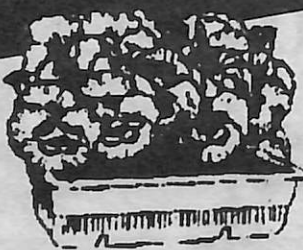
Children spending a day away in the past will dress in period costumes provided by the Village and try their hand crafts such as candle dipping,

basketmaking, and fireplace cooking. They will also participate in old-fashioned games and experience the uniqueness of a working blacksmith shop where they can apprentice from a master craftsman at the forge.

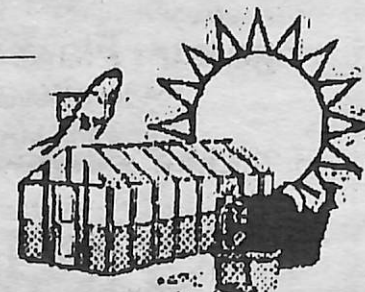
The cost for the one-day program is \$25. Limited space is still available for this popular program. For information or registration, call the Storowton Village Museum office at 413-787-0136.

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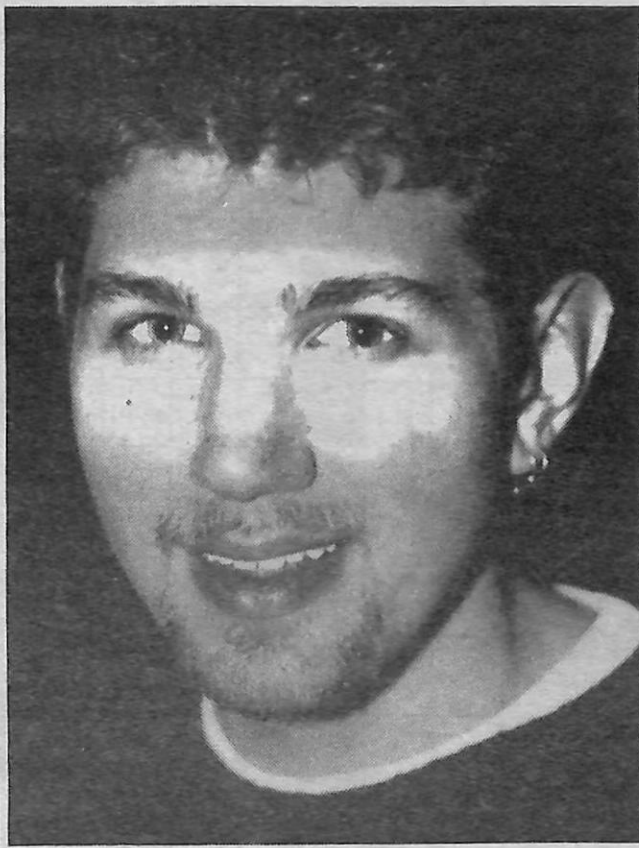
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Dick Mastroianni's "Meet The Master" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each week...



AURELIA ANDREOLI



STEVEN SANDS, JR.

Spring Vacation Show At Red Door Theatre...



THE CURTAIN CLOSED ON STAGE'S production of "HEART OF ICE" (cast pictured above) just in time to begin their next production, "URASHIMA TARO," to be presented at The Red Door Theatre during the spring school vacation week. This STAGE adaptation of the famous Japanese folktale will be held on April 23rd and 24th at 7:30 p.m., and on April 24th and 25th at 2:00 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling the Red Door Ticket Service at (413) 789-2026.

Local Performers To Appear In The Musical *Leader Of The Pack*

Leader of the Pack: The Ellie Greenwich Story will be presented by the Theater Project at West Springfield's Majestic Theater, April 22nd to May 22nd. The musical, which focuses on the career and personal events of the songwriter, is the final production for the Theater Project's 1998-99 season, according to Producing Director Danny Eaton.

Agawam residents Aurelia Andreoli and Steven Sands, Jr. will sing and dance in the show. Andreoli, who studied at the Drama Studio, is making her stage debut. Sands is a veteran of local theater productions, including the Hilltop Players' *Carnival*, *The Fantasticks*, and *I'm Sorry The Bridge is Out, You'll Have to Spend the Night*. He has also performed in *A Christmas Carol*.

Leader of the Pack will be directed by Eaton, with assistance from Irene Thornton. Costume Designer is Ilene Goldstein. Lisa Moskow will choreograph, and Tiffany Motscherbacher will stage manage the production. Assistant Stage Managers are Nancy Kotzen and Elena Hovagimian.

Eaton is excited about the production, which is set in the early 1960's during Greenwich's songwriting heyday in collaboration with then-husband Jeff Barry. "Lots of people know and love her songs," he says. "She's basically written the soundtrack to that entire era, including songs like *Da Do Ron Ron*, *And Then He Kissed Me*, *Chapel of Love*, and *Leader of the Pack*. The show is filled with terrific numbers like that, and many more. It's a great way to wrap up a great season."

The Theater Project is also preparing another vintage automobile raffle as a fundraising effort. Following its previous successes raffling off late-1950's vintage Corvettes, the group is now offering raffle tickets for a 1963 classic Stingray. Tickets may be purchased at the theater, through the mail, or over the phone with a credit card by calling the box office at (413) 747-7797.

Tickets for *Leader of the Pack* may be purchased over the phone or in person at the Majestic Theater (131 Elm Street, West Springfield) during its operational hours of Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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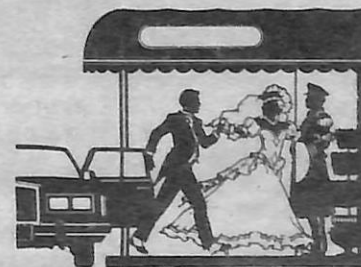
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Education

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Athletic Director Kathleen McSweeney Named Acting Asst. Principal At AHS

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The school day has been officially over for about 45 minutes.

But not in the corner office overlooking the circle at Agawam High School that has been home to Director of Athletics, Health and Physical Education Kathleen McSweeney since December.

With practices and games scheduled after the 1:45 p.m. close of school, it should come as no surprise that the pace of the day would pick up in an athletic director's office just as the pace slackened off for colleagues on the academic side of the street.

It's just that the pace of the day in McSweeney's office hasn't fallen off since more than an hour before school started.

Halfway through the second week of her appointment as acting assistant principal, the pace of the day is about what she'd expected it would be for one of the two administrators charged with enforcing the school's discipline code. It's crazy, hectic, running all day. And then there are her regular duties in athletics and health and physical education.

Add to that the third role of continuing education student and it's not too hard to see why the homework assignment begun at 6:00 a.m. still sits on the computer screen with only two paragraphs finished by late afternoon.

After realizing it would take years to complete a second master's degree with certification as a high school principal in a traditional program, McSweeney enrolled in an intensive 18-month program at Salem State College which is run by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Association and the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Administration Association (as a means of heading off a shortage of educators interested in applying for principalships).

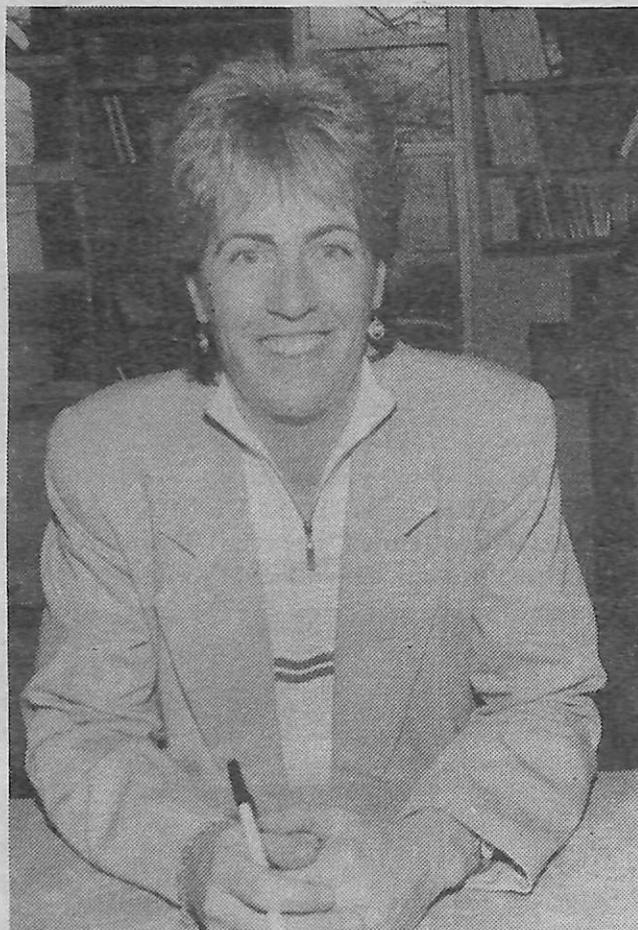
The program runs from September through July with a month off in August. Participants attend day-long class sessions at Salem State College every other Saturday during the school year, and a one-week seminar in the summer. In taking the job of serving as the disciplinarian for the freshman and junior classes in the absence of Deputy Principal Paul Cavallo (who is on sick leave), McSweeney is fulfilling the internship requirement of the program.

"My internship runs until the end of the year and if Mr. Cavallo returns before then, I'll help him out with his workload," Ms. McSweeney said.

Transition A Challenge

The transition from one administrator to another has been a challenge for everyone involved, McSweeney admits. "I'm a very by-the-book person who believes the rules are in place for a reason. I treat everyone consistently and then I am fair to everyone."

Known as a stickler for enforcing the rules in the Athletic Department, Ms. McSweeney arms herself with a copy of the same student handbook given to students and parents at the beginning of the school year as she spends her days chasing down the kids who are cutting class, skipping detentions, or running afoul of any aspect of the school's discipline code. With handbook in hand,



KATHLEEN MCSWEENEY

Ms. McSweeney points out the consequences of breaking the rules to miscreants who often beg for a second chance.

"I just ask them why I wouldn't give a suspension when it's right here spelled out in the handbook," McSweeney said.

It's a philosophy that has some kids muttering dictator and running the place like Fort Knox. Other kids say the new acting assistant principal is tough, but fair.

Stopping by McSweeney's office for a signature authorizing him to report late to internal suspension, one student thanked her for making the arrangements that allowed him to make up a test and promised to finish taking care of the apologies he owed to two teachers.

"The student had asked me if he could make up the test before going to suspension and I think that's fair. He's taking his punishment and he's meeting his academic responsibilities," Ms. McSweeney said.

While the hectic pace of the day was predictable, the nature of the workload came as something of a surprise to someone who prefers spending time working on positive, productive, and cooperative efforts aimed at making the school a better place.

"I didn't realize I'd be spending 100 percent of my time on five percent of the kids," Ms. McSweeney said. "There is such a small element of the school getting into trouble that it's unfortunate that the large majority of the kids aren't getting any of my time."

After eight years in a job she loves, Ms. McSweeney had several reasons for taking on a new career path in administration.

Likes A Challenge

"I love my job as AD, but I can't imagine 10 years down the road getting to school at 7:00 a.m. and getting home at 9:30-10:00 p.m. three or four nights a week," McSweeney said. "Plus, I'm a person who needs challenges. This program gives me a different challenge in my professional life and it might be fair to the Athletic Department to have someone else come in with new ideas."

Ms. McSweeney expects to finish the accelerated program in high school administration next winter, earning a degree as master of education with principal certification. Her plan is to remain in Agawam as the Athletic Director for the next school year and be in a position to apply for administrative positions at the junior high or senior high school level.

"I'm not seriously thinking of leaving Agawam," McSweeney said. "I like the kids, the parents, the town—if something opens up here, who knows what will happen."

For now, the days are a steady stream of phone calls, discipline slips to chase down, conferences with parents; the afternoons are a parade of coaches and student athletes checking attendance lists, looking for locker keys, and some just stopping by to say hello in the afternoons.

So far, the timing of her appointment after the hectic days of making up the spring athletic schedules months ago, coupled with good weather conditions, are key elements in helping McSweeney keep up with the day-to-day operation of the Athletic Department.

McSweeney cites the support of her secretary, Aileen Semanie, and the help of Principal Joseph Zabielski and Dean of Students Bernadette Conte on the administrative side.

The best part of wearing two hats is getting to change gears from dealing with discipline problems as the school day winds down to getting out on the school's playing fields as the activity in the Athletic Department is picking up.

At the end of one typical day, McSweeney planned stops by the tennis courts and baseball practice before heading for the boys' varsity volleyball game.

"This is the first time we've had volleyball," McSweeney noted. "They won the first four games and the kids are really psyched for this game."

They aren't the only ones.

A native of North Quincy, Massachusetts, McSweeney earned a bachelor of science in health and physical education at Bridgewater State College and a master of science in health and physical education with a minor in administration from South Dakota State University.



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National Science Teachers Convention Acclaimed By Participating Educators

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

Several Agawam science teachers took advantage of good timing; the National Science Teachers Association National Convention took place in Boston this year from March 25th through March 28th, coinciding with In-Service (or Professional) Day for teachers. This allowed science teachers to network with over 23,000 science educators from all over the United States.

Presentations from Astronaut John Glenn and Department of Education's Richard Riley were a few of the choices from the massive list of speakers and activities on the agenda during this inspiring event. It is possible to see the archived speeches of these two featured guests by visiting the NSTA web site at www.nsta.org.

Junior High School teacher Robert Sartwell, on the board of directors of the Massachusetts Science Teachers Association, helped with preparations for the convention. Each year, it is held in a different area, and this year, the Massachusetts Science Teachers Association hosted the event.

"I managed to budget my time around my responsibilities as a board member and was able to enjoy the show," Sartwell said. "There was a vast number of activities from which to choose. With only three days and such an enormous selection, choosing was difficult."

The convention program was as thick as a telephone book but far more intriguing. Everything related to science was represented, including whale watches, and Linda Ulrick from the Agawam Middle School was asked by some teachers from elsewhere in the country for directions to the dinosaur tracks displayed locally.

Robert Ballard, who discovered the R.M.S. Titanic, gave a talk, as did Stephen Jay Gould, acclaimed science writer, paleontologist, and evolutionary biologist, and Joycelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General and a pediatric endocrinologist.

There were shuttles to and from buildings, with hands-on workshops, short courses, and area study tours available, with exhibits of up-to-date teaching materials and "cutting edge" technologies by more than 500 companies and organizations. In short, science teachers were able to exchange ideas and see the latest in teaching methods and materials in a fascinating setting, shared with their peers.

Agawam Teachers At The Convention...

On Thursday, March 25th only, Agawam High School science teachers Kirstin Pittenger and Rebecca Brown attended the NSTA convention. Junior High School science teachers Deb Lamotte, Pat Holland, Sartwell, and John Alves were able to attend for two days, and Mrs. Ulrick and sixth-grade teachers Dan Early and Judy Basile stayed the full three days.

Most outstanding to Mrs. Ulrick was the multitude of things at any one time one could attend or do. "I heard the presentation of astronaut Mike Mullane from Albuquerque, New Mexico, who has been on three shuttle landings. His book is used in our science program as a resource book," she relates. Mrs. Ulrick also attended a presentation by Janice Van Cleave, author of children's books with science themes.

"I got a number of ideas for activities and brought home handouts and material applicable to our teaching. It was not so much an experience as an event," acknowledged Mrs. Ulrick.

Sartwell's role as science coordinator led him to zero in on presentation highlight Al Guenther of the national science program called Beakman's World. As an administrator, Sartwell was involved in a round-table discussion with three former chairmen and the current chairman of the National Science Teachers Association. The discussion was about working models and ideas for changing science teaching and learning.

"There were examples of fine things that can be done in science at every turn in this convention. It was fortunate that Professional Day coincided with the convention dates, making it possible so that many science teachers could attend. It was an opportunity to meet, share ideas, and learn from science teachers from the entire country."

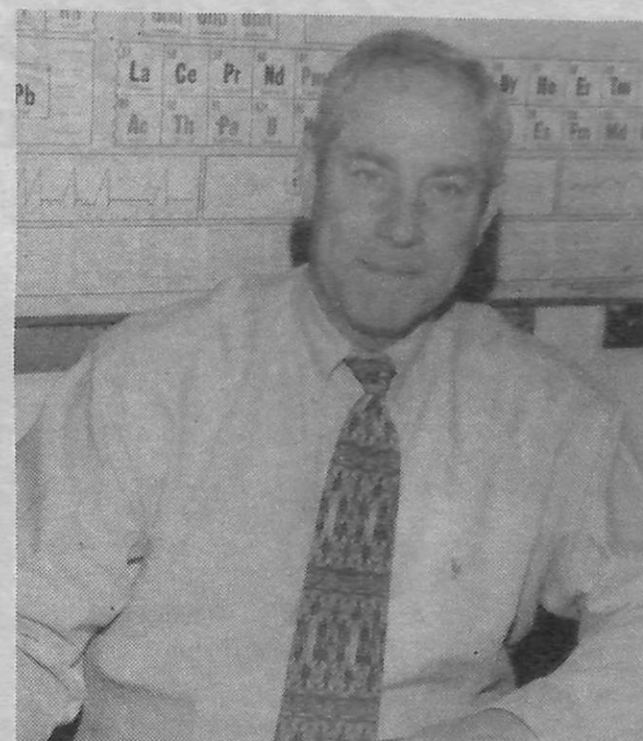
Sartwell and Mrs. Ulrick summed up the experience for Agawam's teachers: "We'll remember this experience for the rest of our lives. It is something that will always stay with us."

In the year 2008, the Massachusetts Science Teachers Association will again have the opportunity to host the National Science Teachers Association National Convention, according to Sartwell.

* * *

For all the local school-related, you turn our pages each & every week ... AAN!

* * *



LINDA ULRICK (left) and ROBERT SARTWELL (right) were just two Agawam science teachers who attended the recent National Science Teachers Association National Convention in Boston. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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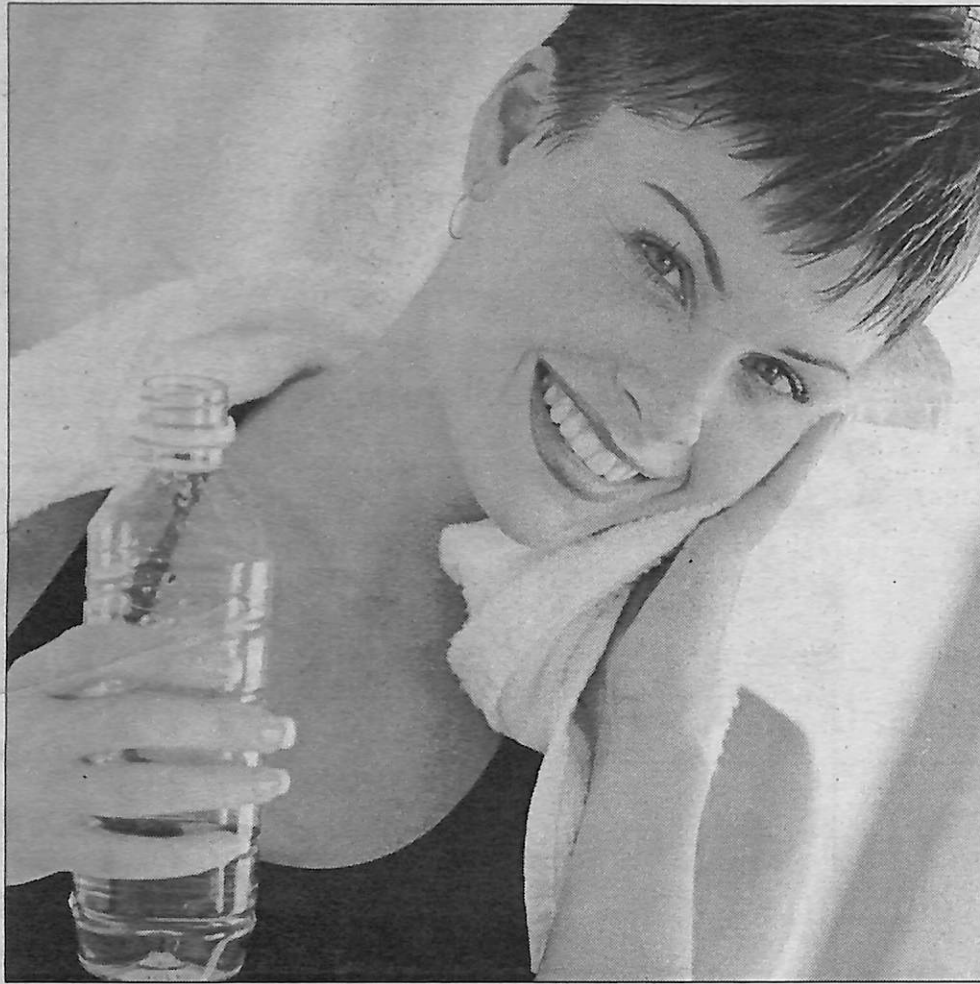
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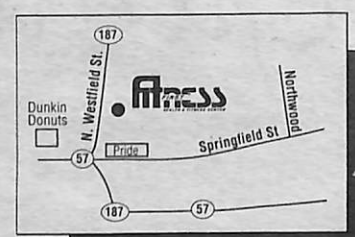
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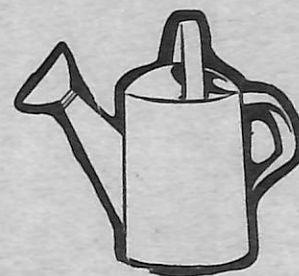
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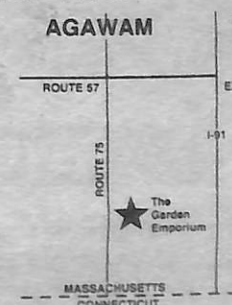
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Guidance Report...

Who Is Defining Whom?

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School Guidance Counselor

I was at a meeting the other day and heard an interesting sentence that really stuck with me. The speaker said, "Do not let others define you; you define yourself."

How essential it is for all of us to consider that sentence, especially for our youngsters today who are so concerned with what others think about their every move. I cannot begin to count the number of times that a youngster has come into my office with tears streaming down her face because she doesn't feel included or liked, simply because the others in the group don't like the ideas that she espouses. She begins to wonder if her ethic, if the fiber of her being, is wrong. Should she let herself be more like them, abandon her beliefs, in order to be accepted? This is a tough question, since a yes answer means she will be included and a no answer means she will be excluded.

With this particular gal, whom I shall call Mary, we sat and chatted about the situation. "First of all," I inquired, "just who are you, Mary? What makes you tick? What do you like to do? What do you believe?"

I emphasized the word **you** each time I spoke? Once we had looked more closely at the real Mary, we then tackled the same questions and came up with answers that would fit the "group." We compared and contrasted the two sets of answers and you guessed it ... the answers were different.

Next, we tackled what Mary really wanted. Did she want to change her way of thinking and let the group's way define her, or did she want to hold steadfastly to her own ideals? Was she willing to redefine herself to fit the group's image to belong, or was it time for her to hang up the idea of belonging to that group and instead seek friends who shared her way of thinking and acting? The group's way of thinking and acting was not necessarily wrong, but was it right for Mary and that's what she had to consider.

I think intellectually she knew what she had to do, but emotionally she was torn because she so wanted to hang with that group. She felt caught between who she was and who she wished she could be. But, the rub was, did she want the group to define her, or did she want to define herself. In Mary's case, I am glad she grappled with the issues and decided to be herself, the Mary that she knew.

Let's think for a moment how many times we do let things define us. The advertisements on television certainly leave their mark. Often, we purchase items that we never would have bought before. The commercials have, in fact, helped to define us.

What about the movies and television programs? Many times, youngsters will try to pattern themselves after one of the stars. Now, who is defining whom?

As adults, our slates are pretty much filled with ideas, thoughts, and actions. We are pretty much defined. Yet, as a child, slates are still being written upon. Unless a child has a good sense of self, he will often let additional ideas be imprinted on his slate that perhaps should not be there. The one who is surer of himself will be more selective in choosing what to allow on his slate.

When new situations arise, when we are exposed to different ways of thinking, it is good to take a deep look at ourselves and ask, "Do I wish to be defined by that, or do I want to do my own defining?" After all, the word define, according to Webster, means to determine the essential qualities of... It is good to know and embrace our essential qualities. They are the ones that make us uniquely us.

Applications Available For Dunn Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee has announced that applications for the Valley Community Church Frank E. Dunn Memorial Scholarship are available.

These scholarships are offered to high school seniors continuing education in an institution of higher learning. Though membership in the church is not a requirement, preferential consideration is given to those who are or who are related to church members. To obtain an application form, contact Suzanne Morgan at 786-9479.

Reverend Frank E. Dunn was the first pastor of Valley Community Church and one of the founding fathers responsible for its creation.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Volleyball Competitors At The Junior High...



PICTURED ABOVE are the volleyball champions, runners-up, and officials who participated in a recently held tournament at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EIGHT TEAMS and the winners of the volleyball tournament that recently took place at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Horace Smith Fund Has Loans For Area High School Seniors

The Horace Smith Fund announced the availability of undergraduate college loans for graduates of Hampden County secondary schools.

The loans are awarded to worthy, full-time college students whose financial resources might restrict their college attendance. The loans are renewed during the four years of college, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

Applications became available to the public on April 1st. High school seniors may obtain applications from their guidance office while college

students may obtain them at any branch office of the Springfield Institution for Savings. Information or applications are available at the Fund's office at 739-4222 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

Horace Smith Loans are available from a bequest made by the late Horace Smith, co-founder of Smith & Wesson. The fund, established in 1899, is a private, non-profit corporation.

Application deadline dates are June 15th for students presently attending college and July 1st for graduating high school seniors.

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Guidance Bulletin From Agawam High

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations! **Patty Zerra:** Boston College, Syracuse University, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Connecticut College.

Glenn Corlett: Roanoke College.
Melissa Crough: Boston College.
Rob Santaniello: James Madison University.
James Janarelli: Westfield State College, University of Hartford, Western New England College.

Mary Fiorentino: Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College.

Barbara Maloni: Brown University.
Matthew Perry: Springfield College, Temple University.

Koren Whitney: Holyoke Community College.
Jillian Abbow: Framingham State College.

Leila Mounemneh: Clark University, Boston University.

Alicyn Siano: American University.
Kristin Pisano: Holyoke Community College.

Todd Lovell: Fitchburg State, Bridgewater State College.

Matthew Albano: Westfield State College.

Michael O'Connor: University of New Haven, Roger Williams University.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Valley Community Church Rev. Frank E. Dunn Scholarship: Open to all students who plan to attend college. Church members are given preference. Deadline: April 30, 1999.

Henry David Thoreau Scholarship Fund: Open to Massachusetts high school seniors who plan to pursue a course of study in the environmental field. This scholarship totals \$30,000, to be distributed \$7,500 per year to the college of the student's choice. Deadline: June 1, 1999.

Philoptohos Greek Ladies Society Scholarship: Open to students who plan to further their education and whose parent(s) are currently members of St. George Cathedral. Deadline: May 15, 1999.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Allentown College of Saint Francis de Sales: Sunday, April 25th.

Holyoke Community College, Healthcare Careers: Wednesday, May 6th, 6:30 p.m.

Pine Manor College: Tuesday, April 27th, 11:00 a.m.

Quinnipiac College: Monday, May 10th, 10:00 a.m.

Jr. Women's Club Announces Winners Of Spelling Bee

The Annual Spelling Bee was held on March 26th at the Middle School. The winners were as follows:

Grade 4: Jason Polek, first place; Brian Foley, second place.

Grade 5: Ally Bertagnolli, first place; Johannah Kos, second place.

Grade 6: Ryan McLane, first place; Jacquelyn Lear, second place.

First-place winners received a \$100 Savings Bond donated by Westfield Savings Bank and a dictionary donated by School Specialties. Second-place winners received a \$50 Savings Bond donated by BankBoston and WestBank and a Scrabble game.

The Junior Women's Club would like to thank Paul Sutton for serving as the "Pronouncer," and Judges Roberta Doering, School Committee member; Judith Clini, Agawam Library Reference Librarian; and Kathy Mounemneh, an English teacher at Agawam High School.

Congratulations to all the winners and all who participated. The Spelling Bee will be shown on Channel 15, Media One's cable access channel, on Wednesday, April 28th at 7:00 p.m.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Massachusetts.

* * *

Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you — AAN!!!

* * *

Locals Attain Winter Honor Roll At Suf. Academy

The following Agawam residents have been named to Suffield Academy's winter term honor roll:

HIGH HONORS

Grade 11: Elizabeth Cowan.

Grade 12: Jeffrey Beaudette and Sarah Cowan.

HONOR

Grade 9: Brittany Locke.

Grade 12: Mark Sotichack.

* * *

Our office will be open on Monday, April 19th (Patriots' Day) ... AAN!!!

* * *

Steven J. Bertolino Named A College Scholar At Middlebury

Steven J. Bertolino, son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Bertolino of Agawam, has been named a College Scholar for academic excellence during the fall term at Middlebury College.

A College Scholar represents the highest level of academic achievement at the liberal arts institution in Vermont.

To be selected as a College Scholar, students must carry a full course load of four classes during the semester, achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or higher, and earn no grade lower than a "B-."

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BRIAN LABORDE AND ERIC HOGAN

Two Members Of Troop 78 Earn The Rank Of Eagle Scout

On Tuesday, March 9th, Brian LaBorde and Eric Hogan from Boy Scout Troop 78 of the Springfield Turnverein in Feeding Hills earned the rank of Eagle Scout as they met with members of the Boy Scout Council at City Hall in Springfield.

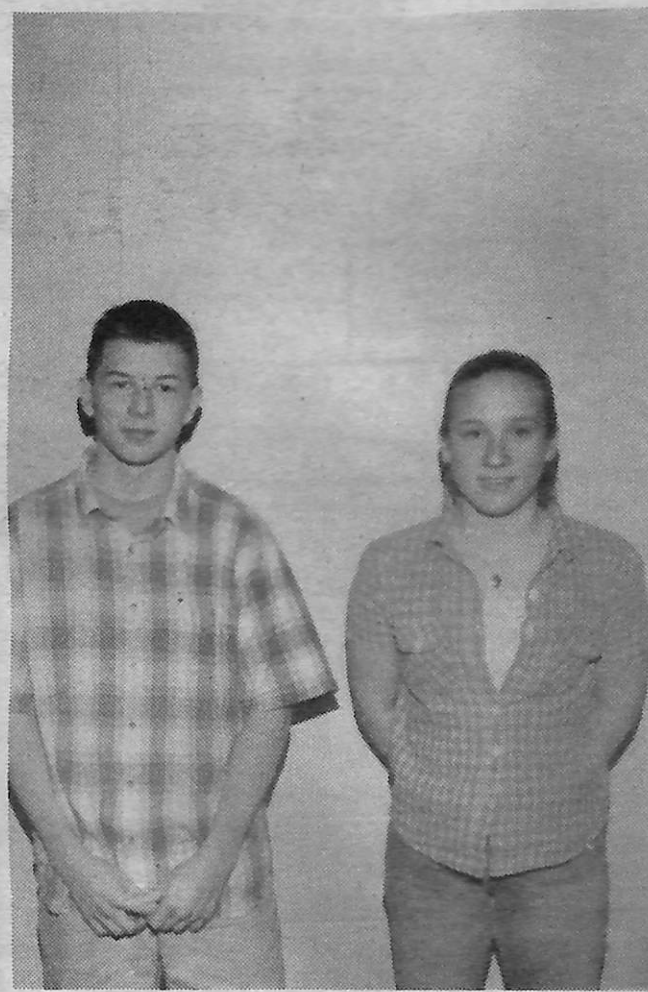
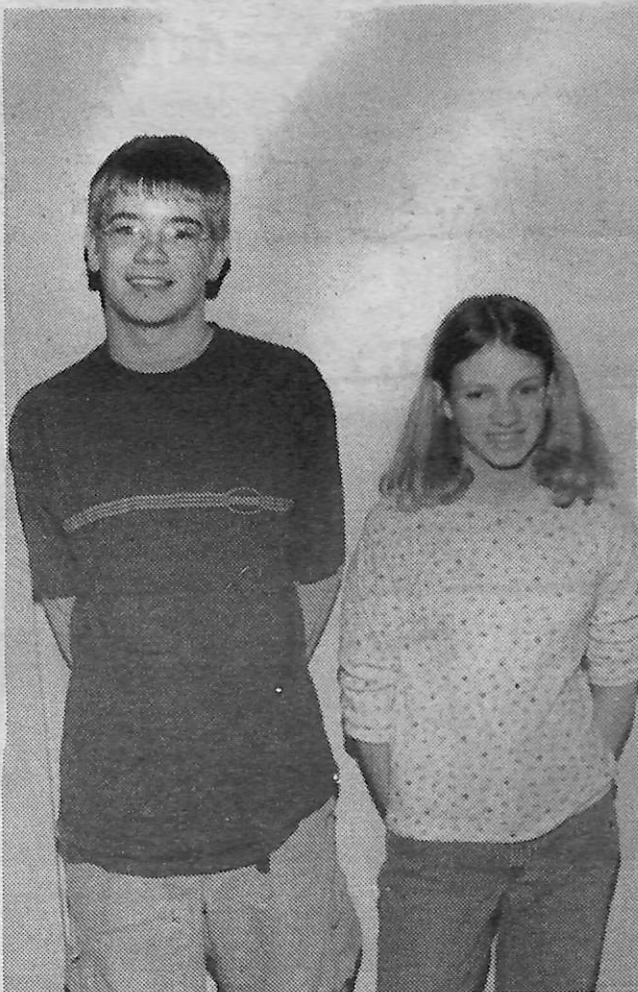
Eagle is the highest rank in scouting.

Becoming an Eagle Scout requires several years of preparation and dedication to scouting. A scout must move through the various ranks by learning and performing the many scout skills, help with service projects, hold a leadership post within the troop, earn 21 merit badges, and lead his troop in performing a project that challenges his leadership ability and is beneficial to others.

For his Eagle Project, Brian worked with the Agawam Historical Society and led the troop in erecting a flagpole needed by the old Veterans' Cemetery on North Westfield St. in Feeding Hills.

Eric led the troop to the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke to assist the maintenance crew and socialize with the veterans that occupy the facility.

Separate ceremonies will be held at a later date honoring these scouts for their accomplishments.



THE FOLLOWING Agawam Junior High School pupils have been named as the latest "Physical Education Students of the Month": Sam Young and Bethany Reid, grade seven (left photo); and Dan Hanson and Christina Knodler, grade eight (right photo). Advertiser News

photos by Jack Devine.

* * * * *

For copies of his photos in this edition, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Thank you!

* * * * *

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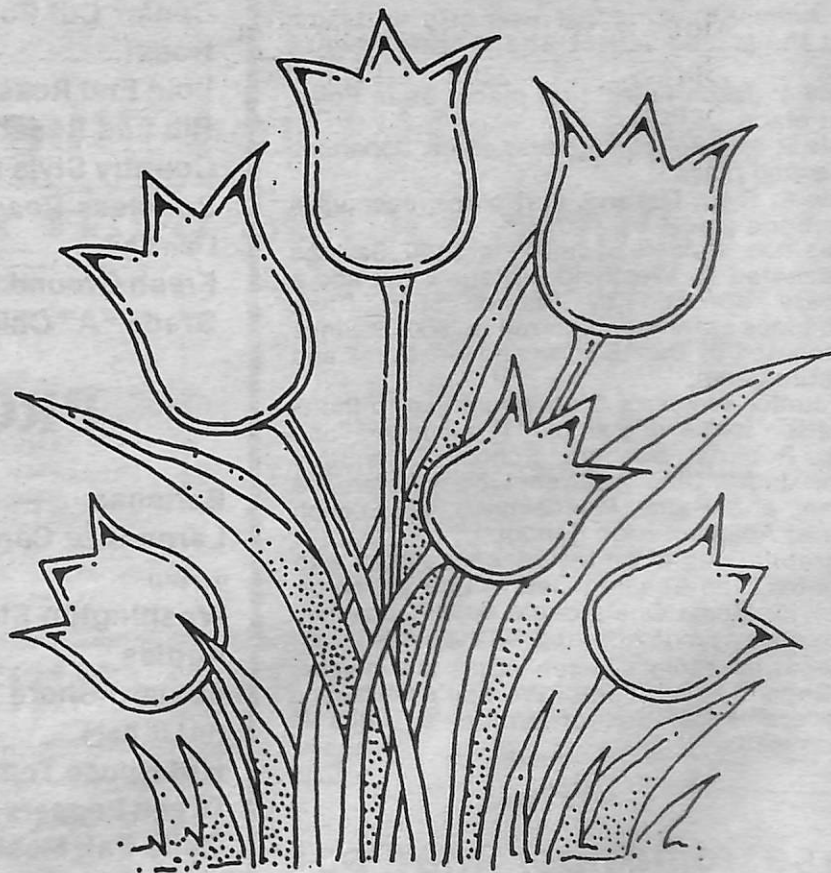
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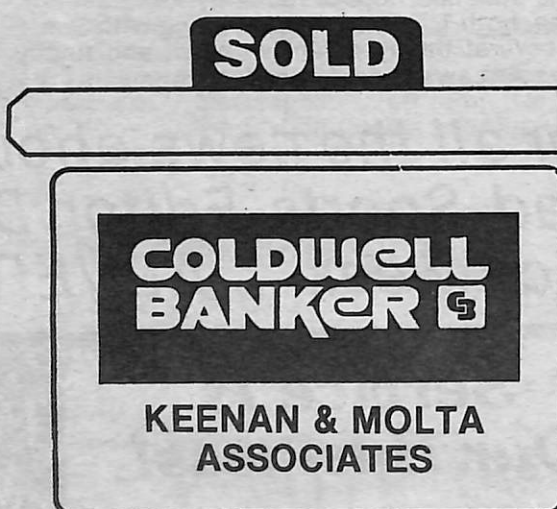
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Sports

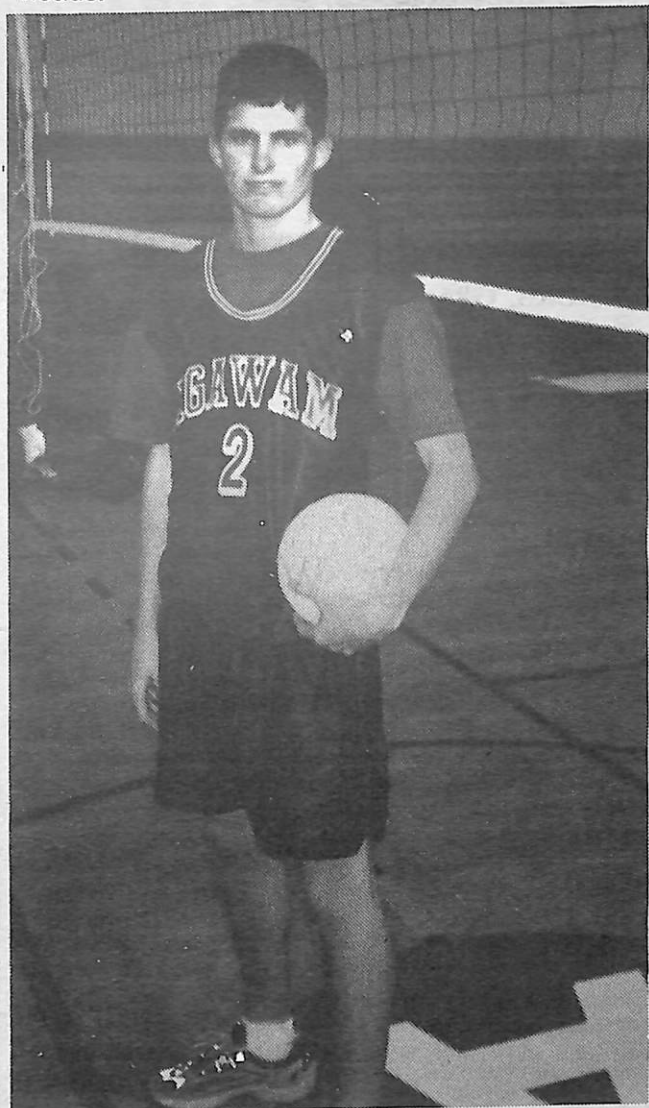
Agawam High's Boys' Volleyball Team Is Certainly Demonstrating Its "Net" Worth...

AHS Sends Ludlow Home In Defeat, 15-13, 15-6

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Four wins in your first four games isn't bad for a new athletic program in any sport. That is exactly the station the Agawam High boys' volleyball team occupied this past Monday afternoon after its 15-13, 15-6 win over visiting Ludlow in Kibbe Gym.

For her part, Coach Pat Demers said she wasn't really surprised at her team's success. "As the season has gone along, I could see them gaining confidence. Now we have to make sure they use it in a positive manner and not let it go to their heads."



JUNIOR BRAD THERIAQUE, one of the players on AHS's boys' volleyball team. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Ludlow, an established program, probably wasn't ready for the ambush the Brownies had in store for them. The Lions led early in the first game, 7-3. But, the Brownies were beginning to hit their passes and nail their serves and pulled to within one point in their second round of serves.

As the first game wound down, the Brownies went into their third service round and, behind three critical points scored by senior Ondrej Lukes, tied it up at 13 all. Then Mike Thomas served out the game.

"I don't think Ludlow expected us to be so aggressive. I think the way we came back in the first game shocked them a little. They seemed to lose focus after that and stopped talking to each other, letting balls hit the floor," Demers said.

The second game was all Agawam, highlighted by several big kills by sophomore Mike Thomas and eight straight points off the service game of junior Brad Theriaque for the 15-6 win and the match. "They tried to substitute in an effort to stop Brad. But, by then, nothing was working for them," Demers stated.

"These kids are gentleman and have a great attitude. They don't do anything fancy. They just listen to me, then go out and play their game," the coach added.

Brownies' Win Over Westfield Strengthens Their Confidence

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The fledgling Agawam High boys' volleyball team is enjoying success from the get-go.

After a season-opening win over Belchertown, they went on to beat visiting Westfield High last week, 15-11, 15-11. "We'd seen them play and knew they were a good team," Agawam Coach Pat Demers smiled. "This was a confidence building win for us."

That win was coupled two days later when the Brownies ran their record to 3-0, beating last year's Western Mass. championship runners-up, Springfield Central, 13-15, 15-8, 15-7 at the Eagles' place.

The Brownies, who have little or no individual experience in the sport, started vs. Westfield with sophomore Mike Thomas, sophomore Wesley Scott, and senior Dave Thomas on the net line. Senior Ondrej Lukes, junior Jeff Maynard, and junior Brad Theriaque were on the second line.

Lukes had the first service and when he was done, Agawam held a 3-0 lead. The Bombers came back and made it 3-1, Brownies, on their serve. Next to serve was Mike Thomas. With some good defensive help from his brother, Dave, Mike served Agawam into a 5-1 lead.

Two side outs saw the score 5-2, Brownies when the Bombers, by virtue of a thundering spike by Nick Hatch and some good offense, also at the net, drew to within one at 5-4.

Dave Thomas, who has the most volleyball experience among the Brownies, served next. Helped by a good save on a Westfield spike by Wesley Scott, Thomas served the Brownies into an 8-4 lead. Westfield came back on its serve and made it 8-6 before Agawam got the ball and another scoring opportunity back, but couldn't cash in. Both teams traded a service point apiece, making it 9-7, Brownies.

Westfield scored two more, tying it up at nine. A nice save by Dave Thomas enabled Lukes to get his second turn at serving. Two more points made it 11-9, Agawam.

Best Point Of First Game

Westfield got one back on its serve to trail, 11-10. At this point, Mike Thomas stepped to the back line. The sophomore, who also has some volleyball experience, launched it over the net and into the best point of the first game. It was a minute long rally that saw both teams diving all over the polished floor of Kibbe gym.

Lukes, both Thomas brothers, along with Scott, made several timely defensive plays and finally put the point away and it was 12-10, Agawam. The

Brownies would serve out to take a 14-10 lead. The Bombers managed a point on their serve. Dave Thomas got it back on a soft backhand flip that just dribbled over the tape and onto the Westfield floor.

Agawam needed one lonely point for the first game. Westfield hung tough and had the serve, trailing 14-11. Jeff Maynard, with a good block at the net, got the serve back for the Brownies, who could do nothing with the opportunity. Westfield did likewise with their serve. Agawam won the first game on Theriaque's service by way of a netted return from the Bombers.

The second game had Dave Thomas, sophomore Brian Foresman, and Mike Thomas on the net line. Theriaque, junior Ken Shaw, and Lukes backed them up. Westfield served first and jumped out to a 2-0 lead. The Bombers looked pumped and might have scored more. But, an angled defensive return by Dave Thomas ended the early threat.

Bombers Take The Lead

Agawam was down 3-2 and tied it at three on Theriaque's serve. A long spike by Lukes put Agawam up 4-3 before they served out. Two straight points by the Bombers saw them retake the lead at 5-4. At that point, Demers took out Forsman and Shaw, substituting Scott and Jeff Maynard.

The Brownies managed to tie it at six on Lukes' service. They went ahead, 7-6, when Mike Thomas made a tough block on a big Bomber spike attempt. The Agawam defense stepped up then, enabling the Brownies to lead 9-6 before they served out. Westfield also served out. Agawam got another point on Mike Thomas' serve, stretching its lead to 11-6.

Then the Bombers went on a charge, racking up five straight points before serving out to tie it at 11. Later, Mike Thomas would say of the 5-0 Bomber run: "We weren't worried. This is volleyball and the score can turn around in an instant."

Scott had the ball now. He was helped by a big block (courtesy of Maynard) for a point and an even bigger spike through a forest of Bomber arms by Theriaque for another point to make it 13-11, Brownies.

Then a Bomber slap into the net saw Agawam just one point from the match, 14-11. They got it when the Bombers, seemingly hypnotized on an Agawam return, let the ball drop harmlessly to the floor for the match-winning score.

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MEMBERS OF THE 1999 girls' track and field team at AHS. Back row - Jill Maslowski, AnnMarie DeMaro, Lindsey Hadden, Danielle Deforge, Eva Donnerhack, Tara Fleming, Jill Rouvellat, and Kristen Pisano. Front row - Cathy Dickenson, Melissa Crough, Jessica Dutton, Christine Campbell, Katie Theroux, and Leila Mouneimneh.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



COACHES DEAN VECCHIARELLI (far left) and DAN PRYCE (far right) with this year's track and field captains: Danielle Deforge, Lindsey Hadden, Jessica Dutton, and Christine Campbell.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AHS JUNIOR KERRY MCGEOGHAN, who is ready to compete for the track and field team this season after recovering from a serious leg injury that she incurred while playing for the girls' varsity soccer team last fall.

Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Preview - Girls' Track And Field...

Coach Vecchiarelli Believes His Team Will Grow Stronger Over The Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

This week, the Agawam High girls' track and field team gets its 1999 season underway (Friday, April 16th, at Minnechaug Regional).

According to Coach Dean Vecchiarelli, they will have to scramble to match last year's 8-1 record. "Yeah, we lost some key kids, which would have meant points for us. But, we also have some kids with the ability to step up. We'll be counting on them."

The coach has 79 kids on the team, including 11 seniors. He singled out some who should impact the program this season — senior captain **Lindsey Hadden** (shot put, discus), senior captains **Jess Dutton** (distance events) and **Christine Campbell** (distance, high hurdles), and captain **Heather Ferguson** (various events).

Some underclassmen in the mix are junior shot-putter, long-jumper, and 100- and 200-meter specialist **Marie Buendo**; 400-meter specialist, sophomore **Valerie Siedlik**; sophomore distance runner **Heather Newalu**; and junior low-hurdler **Gina Loudfoot**.

One competitor who might have a slow start is junior **Kerry McGeoghan** (high jump, long jump, and triple jump). She suffered a serious leg injury

last fall with the girls' varsity soccer team. Her rehab is almost complete, but Vecchiarelli is going to bring her along slowly.

"Kerry will still do the high and long jumps. But, we'll keep her out of the triple jump because that event puts a lot of strain on your legs," he explained.

The coach also singled out **Rebecca Brown**, who isn't one of the kids but an assistant coach. She is a science teacher at the High School. "Rebecca is a volunteer coach with us. She is a former distance runner who is working with our distance runners. Since she has taken over that aspect of the program, we've seen a marked improvement in their performances," Vecchiarelli explained.

Right now, the coach says they have some good qualities on both the track and field sides. "We'll be tough in the shot and discus. The javelin needs some work, though. We should be fairly strong in the shorter distances. The hurdles look pretty good. Our jumping events need work."

He feels the team will get stronger as the year progresses.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

* * * * *

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Preview...

Boys' Track/Field Hopes To Improve Over Last Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' track and field team opens this week (home vs Holyoke). Last year, they went 3-5, which was a disappointing number, according to Coach Bill Dillon. "We should have done better. But, we have to battle numbers. Not as many kids as I'd like come out for this sport on the boys' side," he said.

It looks as though numbers will be their prime problem this time around as well. "We'll go with what we have, which right now is about 38 competitors. We'll cover as best we can," Dillon said.

Some kids who should distinguish themselves, according to the coach, include seniors **Pete Bitzas** (long jump, high jump, and triple jump), **Jay Flood** (long jump and triple jump), **Marc Pedraza** (discus, long jump, and 4x400 relay), **Rich Rodriguez** (800 and 4x400), **Jason Gagne** (300-meter hurdles), and **Josh Sprague** (high hurdles).

The coach feels some underclassmen will step up. They include juniors **Barry Ward** (100 and 200 meters), **Edwin Torres** (assorted events), and newcomer **Brian Lopes** (sprints).

Sophomores **Adam Sprague** (300-meter hurdles), newcomer **Chris Tedone** (200 and 400 meters), and two freshmen, **Brian Michel** (pole vault and high jump) and **Jamie Delpeschio** (mile and 800), will also figure in.

The coach feels they'll be stronger in the field events, especially the jumps and the discus. They'll be weak in the distance events, however. "We will score a lot in our strong areas," he said.

Improvement will be necessary in the shot put. "We need a few more feet there," Dillon admitted. He also hopes to improve the handoffs in the relays. He thinks they'll do better than last season. "I do think we are better. We'll have to get 100 percent from everyone to do it, though. Numbers aside, we have some very good athletes."

Girls' Tennis...

Brownies Bow To Holyoke And East Longmeadow In First Two Matches

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' tennis team fell in their first two matches of the season, 5-0 to Holyoke High in the opener and 5-0 to East Longmeadow.

In the Holyoke match, junior Kaitlin White fell, 6-2, 6-0 to sophomore Andrea Lubold. White played Lubold even up for four games of the first set, tying things at two all. Both players continued to break each other's serve into the fifth game before Lubold took a 4-2 lead in the sixth. The Purple Knight held her serve the rest of the way and broke White one more time to win in, 6-2. White couldn't find her game and lost the second set, 6-0.

Andrea Cizek lost, one and love in second singles. Liz Stieg went down, two and two in third singles.

Junior Kelly Webb and senior Juliana Batista fell in first doubles, one and love. Second doubles was a dogfight for a while. Deuce games were the rule before sophomore Lisa Niedziela and freshman Jennifer Jutte lost, four and one.

The Brownies then lost on Monday afternoon at East Longmeadow High, 5-0.

Coach Mary Wolochowicz, after those two matches, had an opportunity to preview her team for the rest of the season. "We have only two returning players from last season. Kaitlin White will be number one and play against some of the best players in Western Mass. Andrea Cizek played doubles last year and has a steady game. She'll be our number two player."

Liz Stieg will hold down the number three singles, according to the coach. The sophomore has shown marked improvement since practice started, Wolochowicz said.

First doubles will be held down by newcomers Kelly Webb and Juliana Batista. "Kelly practiced with the team last year, but didn't play. Now she and Juliana, who is an exchange student, will spend most of the season as the number one doubles team," the coach said.



KAITLIN WHITE, the first singles player for AHS's girls' tennis team. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Lisa Niedziela, a sophomore, and freshman newcomer Jenn Jutte will play second doubles. "They are learning the strategy of doubles for the first time," the coach noted.

Overall, Wolochowicz expects to win some and lose a few more than last season, when their record was 8-7. "The kids just don't have as much experience as in the past. And experience means a lot in this game," she said.

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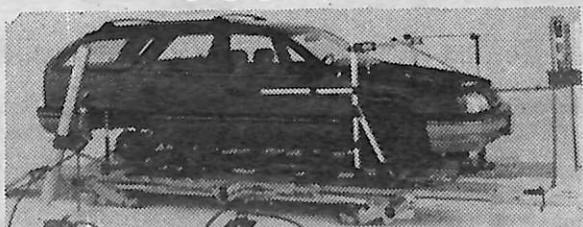
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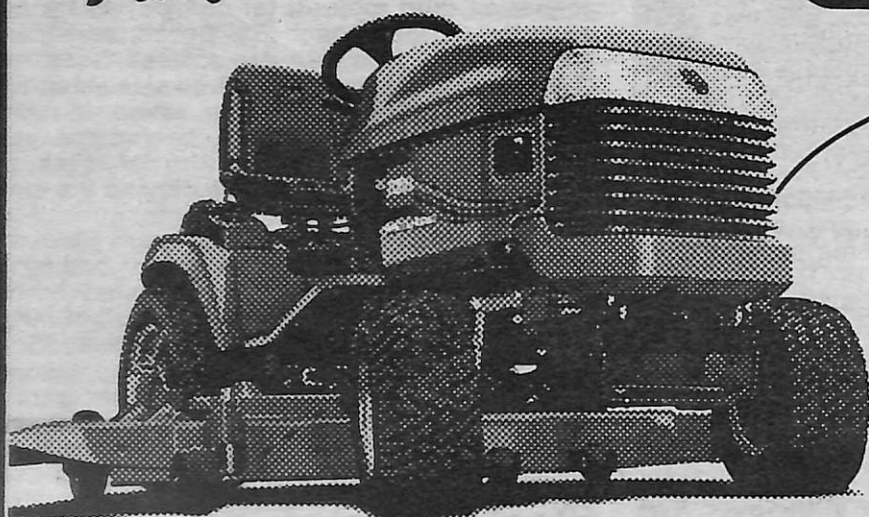
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Softball Versus South Hadley...

Brownies Narrowly Defeat The Tigers

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

They say you never hear the one with your name on it. In that case, the bullet the Agawam High girls' softball team dodged last Friday afternoon just whispered by their ears.

Agawam's 6-5 win over the South Hadley Tigers, as Coach Deb Lickley would say later, was a lucky one. "They outplayed us in every area of the game," she said, shaking her head.

The Brownies, who went in at 3-0, had been outscoring their opponents, 45-4. "Just because South Hadley had won only a game doesn't mean you can go in and expect to coast. When you have that attitude, well, you see what happens," she added.

The Brownies had the first opportunity to do some damage as the visitors. Sophomore second baseman Tiffany Blackman led off with a single, then stole second and third, showing that as usual, the Brownies use speed on the base paths to their advantage. Designated player Erin Rescigno singled in Blackman. The Brownies were up, 1-0 in their half of the first.

A Brace Of Aces

Agawam has a brace of aces on their pitching staff - Ali Jakobek (2-0) and Lindsay Mason (1-0). It was Mason's turn in the circle on this drizzly day. The senior shut down the Tigers and Agawam led, 1-0 after one.

Sophomore centerfielder Amanda Merola led off with a walk and promptly swiped second. Junior first baseman Alison Pisano drove a rope off the Tiger third baseman's paw, driving in Merola for the Brownies' second run of the game.

South Hadley was down 2-0 in its half of the second. They quickly got back into the fray on a walk and an RBI triple off the bat of senior Katie Stawarz. Stawarz then came home on a single, tying things at two.

The Brownies saw three up and three down in the third. South Hadley added another in the bottom of the inning. Mason got a little wild, giving up a lead-off walk. A passed ball and a wild pitch advanced the runner to third. A fly to left scored the Tigers' third run. Mason got out of the inning with no further damage, at least on the scoreboard. But, her back wasn't so fortunate. Soreness had set in and Lickley decided Mason was done for the day.

Agawam had three up and three down in the top of the fourth. Jakobek came in to pitch. The senior quickly walked the first two Tigers. Two wild pitches saw a runner on third. Then the Brownies committed an uncharacteristic (for them) tactical error.

Jakobek struck out the third batter she faced. But catcher Jess Montagna dropped the ball, which meant she'd have to throw the hitter out at first. Montagna easily did that. But, everyone seemed to forget the runner at the corner, who raced home (unscathed) for South Hadley's fourth run. It's supposed to be a heads-up situation and

Lickley has her kids work on the play every day in practice.

Needless to say, she was not happy. A single drove in another run. Jakobek, who would get all the outs in the inning on strikeouts, dusted the final hitter to stop the Tiger threat. However, the defending Western Mass. Division I champs trailed, 5-2.

The Brownies didn't become champions by going belly up, even though they were listing badly at that point. Right-fielder Tiffany Scaife lined out hard to third for the first Brownie out of the fifth. Caytlin Conte, pinch hitting for Montagna, singled. Montagna came back in to run for Conte. Blackman hit into a fielder's choice as Montagna was gunned down at second (pitcher to shortstop).

Then, Rescigno laid down a routine sacrifice bunt. After some Keystone Cops defense by the Tigers, Blackman had scored and Rescigno was standing on third, making it 5-3, AHS.

Sophomore Jill Gendron stepped to the dish and promptly drilled a triple between left and center. Rescigno strolled home and Agawam was down by a run, 5-4. She would score on another South Hadley miscue (a blown throw to third), tying things at five.

A Golden Opportunity For The Brownies

The Brownies had a golden opportunity to take the lead in the sixth. They had runners on second and third with two outs. Montagna slapped one to the backhand side of short. The ball was fairly hard hit. The stop was clean. But, it was in the hole and meant a long toss. Montagna seemed to beat the throw by a step. The call didn't go her way. Had things been different, the Brownies would have had another run on the board and a little less pressure to deal with.

The faithful on hand protested mildly, then, being good and knowledgeable fans, stifled their barking. South Hadley went three up and three down in their half of the sixth.

The Brownies scored their sixth run in the seventh in typical Agawam style - seizing opportunities. Blackman, leading off, got her bat on the ball and grounded to third. The throw was off and she went to second on the error. Rescigno sacrificed her to third. Blackman came home on a passed ball for a 6-5, hard-fought lead.

The Tigers had one more chance and the Brownies nearly let them back in the door. Two walks saw Tigers at second and first with one out in their half of the seventh. Then, in another uncharacteristic mix-up, the Brownies again made Lickley see various shades of red.

A slow roller was hit to third in the direction of Kornelia Moysis. She fielded it cleanly, but had to vacate her bag to do so. She turned back to make the play at the corner. To her surprise and Lickley's horror, no one was covering the bag. The result, South Hadley had the bases full and there



AHS SOFTBALL PITCHER Lindsay Mason, who faced the South Hadley Tigers on Friday, April 9th. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

was still only one out!

Jakobek then uncorked a wild pitch and the runner on third took off for home. It was a good gamble by Tiger Coach Bill Donah, considering the situation. However, the softball Gods must have been smiling on the Brownies. Montagna scrambled back to the screen, which, thankfully for Agawam, wasn't that far behind the plate, grabbed the ball and pegged it to Jakobek, who raced in to take the throw. She did and the runner was out.

With Tigers on second and third, Jakobek walked the next hitter, once again loading the bases. But, she reared back and dusted the final hitter, thus preserving the shaky Agawam win, its fourth of the season against no losses. South Hadley fell to 1-4.

After Lickley had finished reading her team the riot act out in short center, she took a look at the upcoming week. "We don't play again until next Thursday (April 15th). We're going to have three days of practice - intense practice," she vowed.

BROWNIE STATS: Blackman - 1-4, 3 runs scored, 2 sb; Rescigno - 1-2, 1 RBI, 1 rs, 1 sb; Lyman - 2-3 (3b), 1 RBI, 1 rs, 1 sb; Gendron - 0-4; Moysis - 0-4; Merola - 0-2, 1 rs; Pisano - 2-3, 1 RBI, 1 rs, 1 sb; Scaife - 0-3; Montagna - 0-2; Conte - 1-1.

PITCHING: Mason - 3 IP, 3 H, 3 R, 3 ER, 4 BB, 2 SO, 7.00 ERA; Jakobek - 4 IP, 3 H, 2 R, 2 ER, 5 BB, 8 SO, 3.50 ERA.

TOTALS: Agawam, AB - 28, hits - 6 (.214 percent); South Hadley, AB - 26, hits - 7 (.269 percent).

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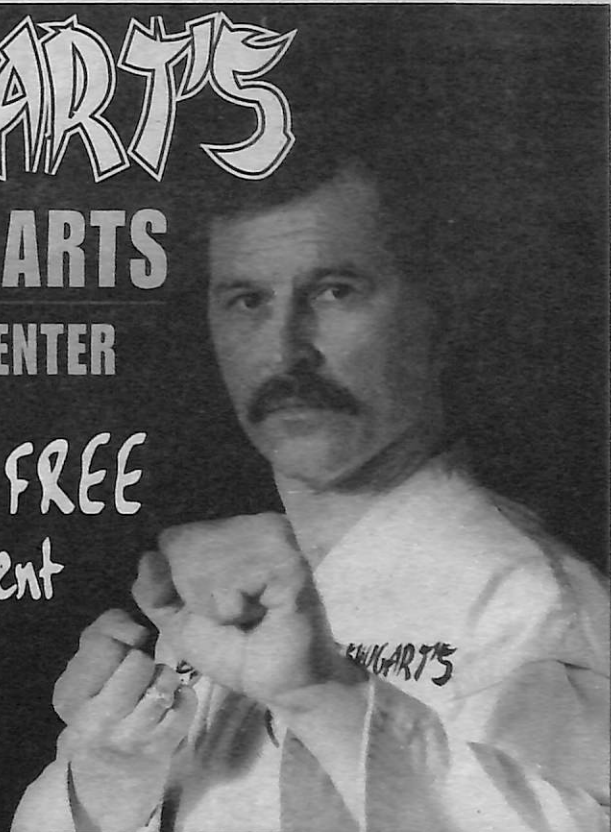
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Baseball Versus Minnechaug...

Falcons Serve AHS An "Ironical" Loss

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In an ironic twist of fate, the Agawam High boys' baseball team lost 3-1 to visiting Minnechaug Regional on Monday afternoon up at windy Harmon Smith Field.

No, the loss wasn't ironic, even though the Brownies were coming off that 22-5 mugging of Southwick High two days earlier. The irony was the fact that they were no-hit by a pitcher who plays for the Falcons, but resides in Agawam - Dave Schubach. How the sophomore ended up in the hinterlands is another story. How he ended up with his no-hitter is the story here.

Minnechaug scored all the runs it would need in the first inning. Brownie ace (junior) Brian St. Jean was on the hill. He dusted the leadoff man, then gave up a walk. Minnechaug designated hitter Jeff Davenport stepped to the dish. The senior hits from the south side. Brian worked him into a 2-1 count.

The next offering, a curve, forgot to hook and hung up in Davenport's wheelhouse like a piñata. Davenport unleashed a bomb that looked to be headed for Downtown Springfield. It ended up landing in the parking lot, several yards beyond the wire fence in deep right - a shot that would have been out of Fenway Park for sure.

Minnechaug Strikes Paydirt

Minnechaug struck paydirt in the second inning, as well. Three straight singles after two were down got them their third run. A gun down on a steal attempt (courtesy of a strong throw from catcher Derek Mercadante to shortstop Mike Carney) got Agawam out of the inning.

The Brownies would score their lone run (unearned) in the bottom of the third. Lead-off hitter (right-fielder) Ryan Drobot lofted a high fly into the gusty winds that always seem to patrol the heights up at Harmon Smith. Despite the bodacious breeze, there was no excuse why Falcon left-fielder Justin Teehan let it hop from his glove to the grass, turning a can of corn into an E-7.

Drobot, who took second while Teehan was scrambling for the loose ball, went to third on a blown pick-off attempt and came home on a fielder's choice when Chris Wayte hopped a grounder to shortstop.

The Brownies were down 3-1 in the fourth when they had a chance to narrow the gap. With one gone, Mercadante pushed a lazy grounder towards third. It was another seemingly routine play. However, the ball rolled through the wickets of Falcon third baseman Steve Ballas. The Brownie catcher chugged into second on that error, setting up a scoring opportunity.

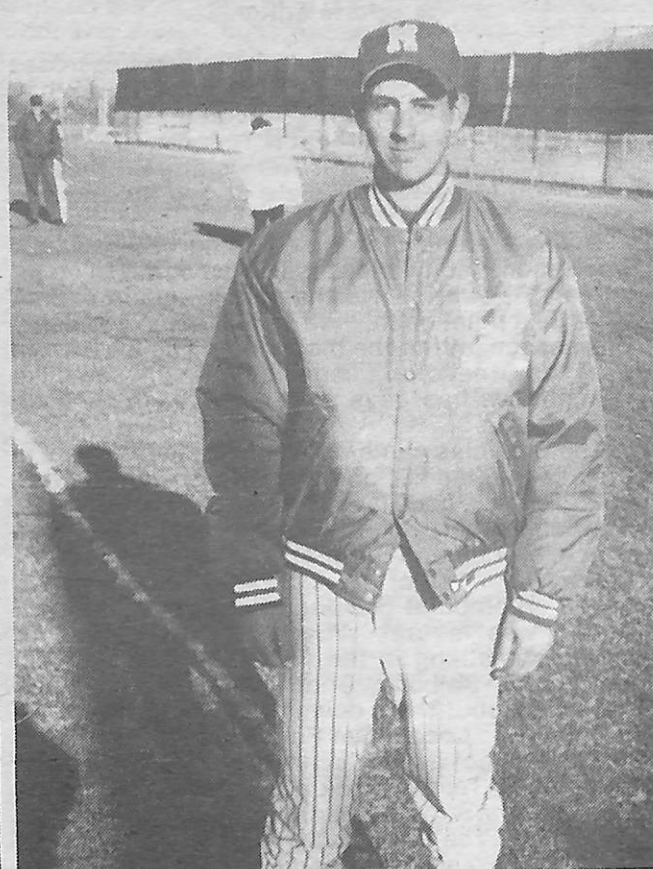
Kevin Mattson stepped into the box. But, Schubach had an eye on Mercadante, who, for some reason, was scuttling further and further away from the second base bag, heading dangerously close to pick-off territory. Sure enough, the Falcon pitcher spun out of his stretch and looked to second. Mercadante was a dead duck on the pond. He couldn't go back, so he went forward. Schubach pegged to third and nailed the stranded runner. Mattson then grounded out and the mild threat was over.

Schubach thought he saw his no-hitter fritter away in the bottom of the fifth. Brownie first baseman Erik Bodurtha lead off with what looked like a hit, driving one into the right-center gap. He ended up standing on second, the proud owner of a double, or so most of the faithful thought. But the Falcon coaching staff were watching like hawks as Bodurtha turned around first. They didn't see him touch the bag and appealed. It stood up and the next run Bodurtha

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IN LEFT PHOTO: Senior AHS baseball players Dave Federico (left) and Kevin Mattson. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Agawam resident Dave Schubach, who pitches for Minnechaug Regional and helped the Falcons defeat the Brownies, 3-1, on Monday, April 12th. Advertiser News photos by Dave Rollins.



made was back to the Brownie bench - the double nothing more than a frustrating out. Schubach got the next eight men in order for his win.

Agawam dropped to 2-1, Minnechaug rose to 2-1 in the non-league game. "You can make those mental errors in this league. They'll kill you," Agawam Coach Pete Clark said. Then he addressed his club's lack of hitting. "Sometimes we need to be more disciplined at the plate and wait for a good pitch. Today, we didn't."

Schubach credited Coach Ray Arra with part of his success on this day. "I used to have a sidearm curve. He told me to throw it overhand and it worked. I mixed up the curve with fastballs and

kept their hitters off balance for the most part."

BROWNIE STATS: Wayte - 0-2, 1 RBI; Federico - 0-3; St. Jean - 0-1; Mercadante, 0-3; Mattson - 0-3; Bodurtha - 0-2; Carney - 0-2; Drobot - 0-2; Harlin - 0-2; Chechile - 0-1; Lapins - 0-1.

PITCHING: St. Jean (L, 1-1) - 4 IP; 5 H; 3 R; 3 ER; 3 BB; 6 SO; 5.25 ERA. Lapins - 3 IP; 1 H; 0 R; 0 ER; 0 BB; 2 SO; 0.00 ERA. Schubach (W, 1-0) - 7 IP; 0 H; 1 R; 0 ER; 1 BB; 9 SO; 0.00 ERA.

BROWNIE NOTES: Agawam sent 23 hitters to the plate, which is only two more than the minimum of 21 in a seven-inning game. At this writing, the Brownies are preparing to play Chicopee at Szot Park.

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Boys' Lacrosse Versus Brattleboro...

AHS's 10-4 Win Over VT Visitors Is A "Good Test"

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The goal for the Agawam High boys' lacrosse team this year is to make the playoffs. To do that, they'll need at least a five hundred record. They moved in the right direction Tuesday afternoon, April 13th, with a 10-4 win over visiting Brattleboro (Vermont) to even their slate at two up and two down.

It was a game that ended some of Agawam's frustration. The two losses they've suffered so far (against powerful Northampton and Amherst) were by a point each. "We've had some problems this season letting the momentum slip away from us. Today, that didn't happen. When it looked like it might, we had guys step up," Coach Nick St. George said.

The Brownies came out against the Colonels in their behind-the-net offense, with Shawn Gloster, Mike Tercyak, and Dave Moore as the set-up men. Brattleboro had its attackers go in after them, which for a time in the first quarter, took some of the precision out of the Agawam attack, which is based on pinpoint passing to cutters in the box. But, it was mutual. When Brattleboro tried to mount something in the AHS zone, the defense, led by Dan Balbony, Brian Gilhooley, and Greg Jubinville, shut them down.

Locals Get First Score

Agawam got its first score five minutes into the game when Tercyak took a pass from Glenn Corlett over the middle and drove the ball home from 25 feet out. The first quarter ended, 1-0, Agawam. They had two shots on net. Brattleboro managed one.

The Brownies scored early in the second 10 minutes compliments of Dave Moore. The junior, hustling as always, rushed in from the left wing and flipped it home from 10 feet out, upping the Brownie lead to 2-0. Two minutes later, Brattleboro got on the board, cutting the lead to 2-1.

Agawam was short-handed because of a penalty at the 5:10 mark. But, some good defense by Matt Sharpe, Greg Boisvert, Gilhooley, Kevin Grealis, and Jim Evans stiffled the Brattleboro advantage.

With 6:42 gone, Dan Balbony scored from 30 feet out in front, making it 3-1, Brownies. Less than a minute later, Moore scored the second of his three from 15 feet out on the left wing and Agawam increased its lead to 4-1.

As the half wore down, the Agawam defense, led by Grealis and Boisvert and buoyed by the offensive production, harassed the Colonels' offense. With seconds left, Agawam goalie John DeCaro made a nice save on a short-hopper to keep it at 4-1 when the horn blew. Agawam had four shots on goal. Brattleboro came in with two.

Brattleboro came out fast to start the second half. But, they got a little too frisky and were slapped with a personal foul and had to play a man short for a minute. The Brownies took advantage.

Two minutes and six seconds in, Corlett scored the first of his three goals on a six-foot shot from the left point.

Agawam scored again a minute later when Matt Poirier stole the ball and passed it to Moore, who shot from 30 feet in front and put the home team up, 6-1. The Brownies had another man advantage four minutes in. Corlett got his second score off a pass from Gloster. Then the senior recorded his third goal shortly after that on a bouncer from 30 feet in front to give Agawam a 7-1 spread.

Brattleboro scored at the 6:30 mark with Agawam down a man, making it 8-2. Balbony, off a Corlett assist, got the point back from 20 feet out on the left point with two minutes left in the quarter. It ended, 9-2, Agawam. The Brownies had four shots on goal. The Colonels had three.

Brattleboro got its third goal 1:20 into the fourth quarter, recording a fourth tally two minutes later. The Colonels, at that point, seemed to be on a roll. But, Balbony made sure they would not roll all that far.

Brownies Make It 10-4

On the ensuing face-off, he wrestled the ball away, scooped it up, and raced towards the enemy net, launching from 20 feet out in front. The score (his third) made it 10-4, Agawam. It would stand up until the final toot of the horn. The Brownies managed three shots on net and Brattleboro also had three in the fourth quarter. The Brownies would end up with a total of 13 to Brattleboro's nine.

"That's what I meant when I said we have kids who can make sure the momentum stays with us. Balbony scored twice, right after they scored," St. George smiled. Then he added, "We knew our defense would be sound. It's nice to see our offense coming around. Brattleboro is a good team, so it was a good test."

Profile...

Dan Balbony Believes The Boys' Lacrosse Team Will Make Playoffs

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Dan Balbony is a key member of the Agawam High boys' lacrosse team and one of the top student athletes at Agawam High. Recently, the senior took some time out to talk about himself and his time as a Brownie.

Dan turned 18 on December 30th. He stands 5'9" tall and weighs in at 155. Dan has spent all four years of his secondary education at AHS.

He has all his requirements for graduation in the books, so-to-speak. So, he's taking some courses that particularly interest him - AP English, physics, and sociology. He is also a member of the yearbook staff where he writes articles on the endeavors of the various athletic teams at the High School.

"It can get pretty hectic at times with deadlines to meet and all that," he smiled.

Dan is a two-year member of the National Honor Society and is currently its sergeant-at-arms and the doorman. He has been class president since he was a sophomore, maintains a 92 average, and has been on the Honor Roll many times. He is a winner of the "Bentley Book Award" for his interest in business.

His favorite course is psychology. The man who teaches it, Edward Merrill, is his top instructor. Also right up there is Vladimiro Orefice, a foreign language teacher.

Dan will attend Boston University in the fall.

He used to play soccer and basketball. Now he concentrates on lacrosse. "I had so many things to do concerning academics, that I had to drop basketball last winter," he explained.

Dan is a captain on the lacrosse team. So far this year, he has a goal and no assists from his midfield position. He handles the face-off duties and is counted upon for his tough defense. His most memorable sports moment came last year in a lacrosse game against Brattleboro (Vermont). "We were down by a goal. I managed to score two in the last quarter to give us a one-point win. That was a good feeling" he noted. Also, Dan says any game against West Springfield is a memorable event for him.

His take on the season so far, which at this writing sees the team at 1-2, is this: "We're playing great. We lost to Northampton and Amherst by a single point. Both are top-notch teams. We have to play 500 lacrosse to make the playoffs, which is well within our grasp."

Dan's favorite food is pasta and sauce. The sauce, according to him, is homemade by his grandmother, Carmella Marzano. "We have it every Sunday. I've been eating it for years and have never gotten tired of it," he said.

Navy blue is Dan's top color.

A late model Mustang would be his car of choice.

He favors the Boston Red Sox and UMass men's basketball as his top teams to root for.

Anything comfortable is the way he likes his clothes. Dan shops for them in the Holyoke Mall at the American Eagle store. He also says he goes back to the clearance racks in the stores and many times picks up some bargains. "I've gotten some of my best stuff off those racks," he admitted.

Pink Floyd and Dave Mathews top his music chart.

Softball Clinic Scheduled For Saturday, April 24th, At Agawam High School

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration: 8:30 to 9:00 a.m., Agawam High School, Field 2 & 3.

Welcome: 9:00 to 9:15 a.m., Agawam High School.

Warm-up and conditioning for everyone: 9:15 to 9:30 a.m.

Position session (pitchers, catchers, infielders, outfielders): 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Group skills for everyone (hitting, bunting, fielding, catching, throwing): 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Situation play and game play for everyone: 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Final wrap-up: 12:00 noon.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Coaches will be free to attend players' clinic at various times throughout the day.

PLAYER'S CLINIC

Participants should bring glove, sweats, indoor/outdoor footwear. (No metal cleats — please!)

Fee is \$12. For further information, please call Dan Sullivan at 786-6265.

CLINICIANS

Player's Clinic: Present members of the Agawam High School softball team, and Debbie Lickley (AHS's softball head coach - 1990 to the present).



DAN BALBONY

"King of the Hill" is his favorite television show. "Braveheart" is his number one flick.

His mom's name is Mary. He has an older sister, Tanya Marzano (24), who is an Agawam High graduate.

He looks up to and takes advice from Mike Alfano. Mike is from Agawam and runs Charlie's Diner in West Springfield. "I work for him from eight in the morning to two in the afternoon on the weekends. He's become like a father to me," Dan said.

How would he like to be remembered when his days at AHS are done? "I hope people realize that I was a good kid with no enemies, that I was polite at all times, but never a suck-up," he offered.

"The biggest thing about Dan is that he's an outstanding human being. He works hard and you never have to ask him to do anything twice. From his start as a lacrosse player, he only wanted to get better. I was impressed with him when he joined us as a sophomore," lacrosse Coach Nick St. George said.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

* * * * *

Boys' Tennis...

Brownies Struggle With Holyoke & East Longmeadow

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' tennis team is 0-2 on the young season. Their first loss was to visiting Holyoke High in their first match of the year, 0-5. Number one singles saw the Brownies' Carlos Fuertes fall, 3-6, 3-6. "Carlos showed flashes of talent. He just has to be more consistent," Coach Bill Spear noted.

In his varsity debut, sophomore Ryan Lepard, playing second singles, also lost. "Ryan played well. But, his opponent had far more experience. That was the difference," the coach observed.

Third singles was held down by freshman Adam Rovithis, who fell, 3-6, 1-6. Spear noted that the kid played well for most of the first set before running out of gas. "All in all, I'm pleased with Adam's overall performance," Spear said.

The first doubles team of sophomore Mike Kirk and junior Mike Krapf lost, 2-6, 3-6. "I think they have the chemistry to become a good doubles team if they work at it," Spear observed.

The second doubles team of freshman Jared Hamre and sophomore Ryan Hanley also lost. Again, the coach was optimistic. "They both played well in spots, but unfortunately, the other team's experience was too much for them."

This past Monday, they hosted powerful East Longmeadow High and lost, 0-5. Fuertes fell in first singles, love and one. Lepard, after some close games, went down in second singles and Jared Hamre in the third singles slot also lost. "He learned some things in the match, though," Spear said.

First doubles saw Krapf and Kirk lose, three and two. "Again, the East Longmeadow kids just had too much experience for them," the coach observed.

For the Brownies, second doubles turned out to be the best match of the day. Hanley and Rovithis (down from third singles) went down three and two, but charged up the coach. "I think they have a chance of becoming a classic net-rushing team. They won most of their points on volleys," he noted.

After seeing his team in two matches, Spear gave this preview. "We are very young with five freshmen and three sophomores on the roster to go along with two juniors and one senior."

The coach admitted that the only way they'll be able to play well at the varsity level is through hard work. "Many of these kids are just learning the game while other schools have rosters with all kinds of experience," he said.

He did note that the kids are athletic, which will help. "They have the ability to put into action whatever we teach them. That's a positive thing."

The coach stressed that fundamentals will be very important, plus strategy and the ability to play the entire court. Will they match last year's record of 6-5? The coach couldn't say. "The harder they work, the better they'll do," he offered.

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Baseball Versus Southwick...

Agawam High's Swinging Bats Result In 22-5 Romp Over The Rams

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High Brownie baseball Coach Pete Clark has a daughter, Keegan, who is a sophomore on the varsity softball team. She told her dad about the team's close call at South Hadley last Friday.

Clark has been around enough to sympathize with what almost happened up there. On Saturday, April 10th, Southwick showed up at Harmon Smith Field. The Rams are a Division II team and could be taken lightly by a Division I club like the Brownies. They weren't. Agawam romped, 22-5.

Southwick scored a run in the first to take a very shortlived, 1-0 lead. The Brownies, who would score in every inning but the sixth (they would not come to bat in their half of the seventh) launched like a rocket when it was their turn. The first saw them put six up on the scoreboard. Highlights in the inning included a double and two RBI's by senior shortstop Mike Carney; a double and two RBI's by sophomore third baseman Tony LeClair; and a two RBI triple to deep right by junior center-fielder Scott Harlin. They sent 10 men to the plate.

Agawam would score seven more in the second after the Rams managed a goose egg against senior right-hander Dave Federico. The inning was topped off with a two-run triple off the bat of senior left-fielder Chris Wayte, who then scored on a wild pitch.

Lowest-Scoring Inning

The third was the lowest-scoring inning in the game. The Rams came up dry again. Brian St. Jean belted a lead-off triple for the Brownies and scored on catcher Derek Mercadante's high fly to left.

Southwick showed some life in the fourth, scoring three runs off Federico, who, with a 14-1 lead probably became somewhat disinterested. Agawam went into the bottom of the fourth up 14-4. There were two outs and LeClair was on first when Federico stepped in.

Perhaps slightly upset over the way the Rams had treated him, Federico came through with a homerun. Actually, it was more of a leg job. He

slapped the ball just past first to the second base side. The Rams' right-fielder must have lost the fast grounder in the sun, because it ran under his glove and out towards the fence. Dave raced to third, then home for Agawam's 15th run. Five hits later, including a two-run double by junior Brian Chechile (who'd replaced Drobot), saw Agawam's lead balloon to 21-4.

Federico, his day's work done, gave way to southpaw junior Shawn Biebel in the fifth. The lefty shut down the Rams. Agawam would manage another run in the bottom of the inning on a lead-off triple by Biebel, who was then driven home on a Jack Pearson single.

The Rams would score another in the seventh against new pitcher Scott Harlin. But, by then, they were all mentally back home, planning their Saturday night entertainment.

The win saw Agawam's record rise to 2-0 on the young season. "We hit very well in this game," Clark said. "That's what I wanted to see; them swinging the bats, making contact."

He also said the fact that for the most part, everyone stayed mentally in the game, despite the score, made him feel good. "We have 15 kids on this team who can play. It makes it tough for me to pencil nine kids into the starting lineup for each game," he smiled.

BROWNIE STATS: Wayte - 1-4 (3b), 2 rs, 2 RBI's; Federico - 1-4 (HR), 2 RBI, 3 rs; St. Jean - 2-3, 1 RBI, 3 rs; Mercadante - 1-2, 1 RBI, 3 rs; Bodurtha - 1-5, 1 RBI, 1 rs; Carney - 1-5 (2b), 3 RBI, 1 rs; Drobot - 1-2, 2 RBI, 1 rs; LeClair - 1-2 (2b), 2 RBI, 2 rs; Harlin - 2-5 (3b), 3 RBI, 1 rs; Lapins - 0-2; Biebel - 1-2 (3b) 1 rs; Pearson - 1-1, 1 RBI; Archambault - 1-1; Chechile - 1-2 (2b), 2 RBI; Mattson - 3-3 (2b, 3b), 1 RBI.

PITCHING: Federico (W, 1-0) - 4 IP, 6 H, 4 R, 4 ER, 2 BB, 5 SO, 7.00 ERA; Biebel - 2 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 2 BB, 4 SO, 0.00 ERA; Harlin - 1 IP, 1 H, 1 R, 0 ER, 2 BB, 0 SO, 0.00 ERA.

LOB: Southwick - 10; Agawam - 6.

Coaches' Baseball Mini-Camp Slated For April 19th-21st At Sacred Heart Church

The Coaches' Baseball Camp will run a Mini-Camp at Sacred Heart Church from April 19th through April 21st. The time of the camp is 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

This camp is for players between the ages of eight and 13, and it will cover the basic skills needed for all players during the upcoming

season.

The cost of the camp is \$45, and registration will be held at the Sacred Heart fields on the morning of April 19th at 8:30 a.m. In case of inclement weather, the opening will be held on the following day.

For more information, contact Brian Rheault at 789-4792 or Lou Conte at 786-7729.

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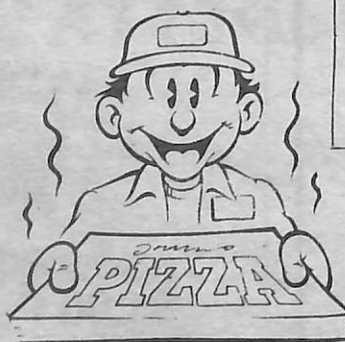
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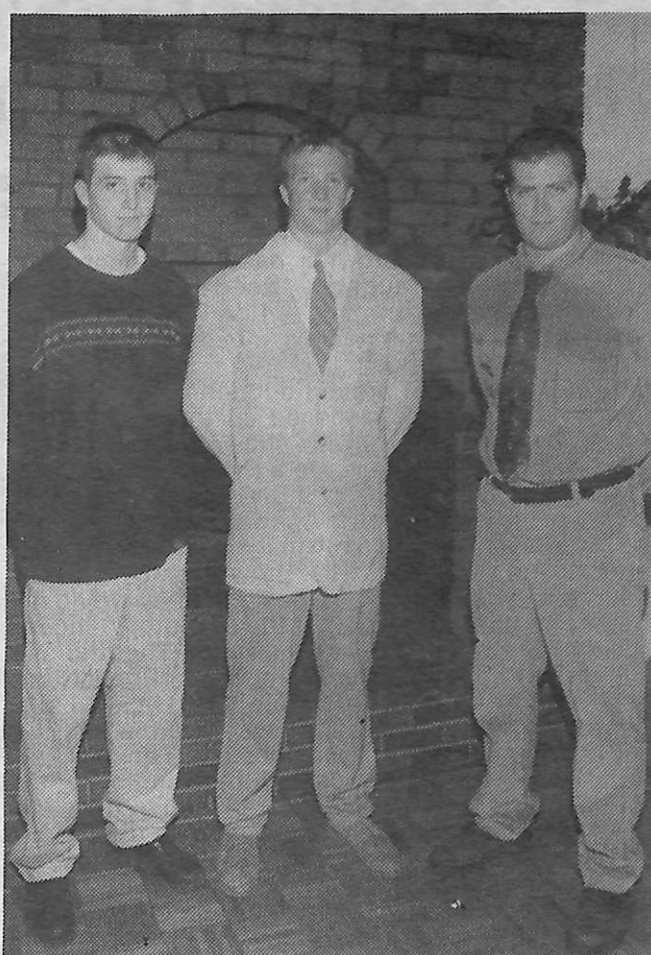
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AHS's Ski Teams Hold End-Of-Season Banquets...



LAST MONTH, Agawam High School's boys' and girls' ski teams held their annual banquets at Ferruccio's Banquet House in Agawam. From left to right: Kerry St. Laurent, Laura Charest, Caroline Scherpa, and girls' Coach James Graveline; team captains Jay Flood and Mike DeFilipi, and boys' Coach Glenn Olson; senior team members Ondrej Lukes, Jay Flood, Rob Santaniello, and Mike DeFilipi. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

In Tri-Parish Bowling...

It's Over — BC Downs Holy Cross To Win Round 3

By the end of the evening on Monday, April 5th, everyone associated with the Tri-Parish Bowling League stopped biting their nails and breathed a collective sigh of relief. You see, that date marked the end of the league's round three ... a round that sparked the kind of excitement and anxiety that we usually associate with the gravity-defying rides over at Riverside Amusement Park.

Just to refresh your memories, Holy Cross went into the last week of this round clinging to first place by way of a one-point lead over second-place Boston College. However, thanks to its 4-0 shutout over HC on April 5th, BC was able to surge past Holy Cross and take the round-three crown with a 28.5-11.5 record over HC's 25.5-14.5. Therefore, without further ado, we at *The Agawam Advertiser News* offer our heartfelt congratulations to the members of the Boston College team — "Sterling" STELLA BARBIERI, "Scary" LARRY AVERY, "Testy" BETSY CANNON, and ROGER "Rabbit" JOSEPHSON.

As for the other final standings, St. Anselm managed to nab third place with a 23-17, followed

by St. Louis (20.5-19.5), Fordham (18.5-21.5), Georgetown (18-22), Catholic University (18-22), St. Michael's (17.5-22.5), St. Mary's (16-24), and Notre Dame (13.5-26.5).

(Before we go on, let's have a brief round of applause for the folks on the Notre Dame squad. True, ND did wind up in last place after all, but its players never took their round-three defeats lying and — hoping against hope to climb out of the cellar — were especially tenacious during the last couple of weeks of competition.)

Earlier in this article, I mentioned that BC knocked-out Holy Cross by a 4-0 margin on April 5th. As for the other matches on this evening, there were two other 4-0 contests, and these respective "clobberings" were responsible for shaking things up a bit in the final standings: St. Anselm over St. Louis, and Catholic University over Notre Dame.

Meanwhile, Fordham and St. Michael's split their night, 2-2, and Georgetown did a number on St. Mary's, 3-1.

With regard to the individual scores, the robust men of the lanes were led by "Likeable" LARRY VIENS with a 121 single string and a 345 triple string. Coming in second was GLENN "Not Sam" ADAMS (131 single, 336 triple), followed by "Luscious" LOU MULDER (116, 323), JIM "Jimbo" LAMBERT (110, 319), "Jolly" OLLY MULDER (122, 315), and the aforementioned ROGER "Rabbit" JOSEPHSON (111, 310) of first-place Boston College.

Speaking of Boston College again, "Testy" BETSY CANNON of BC was the ladies' top roller on April 5th with a 120 single string and a 359 triple string (incidentally, this was the highest triple string of the night). "The Mighty" DEBI POIRIER's 141 single and 326 triple were good enough for the runner-up spot, and other impressive performances were turned in by "Terrifying" TERRY CERPOVICZ (117, 307), CORI "Not Lori" NAPOLITAN (110, 305), "Sweet" CAROLINE COELLN (108, 289), and MOE "On The Go" LYN-COSKY (108, 285).

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Profile...

Phil McGeoghan Doing Fine At University Of Maine

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

While we were talking to Doug Janik about his NCAA hockey exploits for the University of Maine, another excellent athlete who plays for UMaine happened to be in the room - former Agawam High three-sport star (football, basketball, track) Phil McGeoghan. The junior took some time out to talk about his adventures with the Black Bears.

First and foremost, McGeoghan, as a student-athlete, carries a 3.66 GPA in his major - marketing. "I'm doing well in it," he told us.

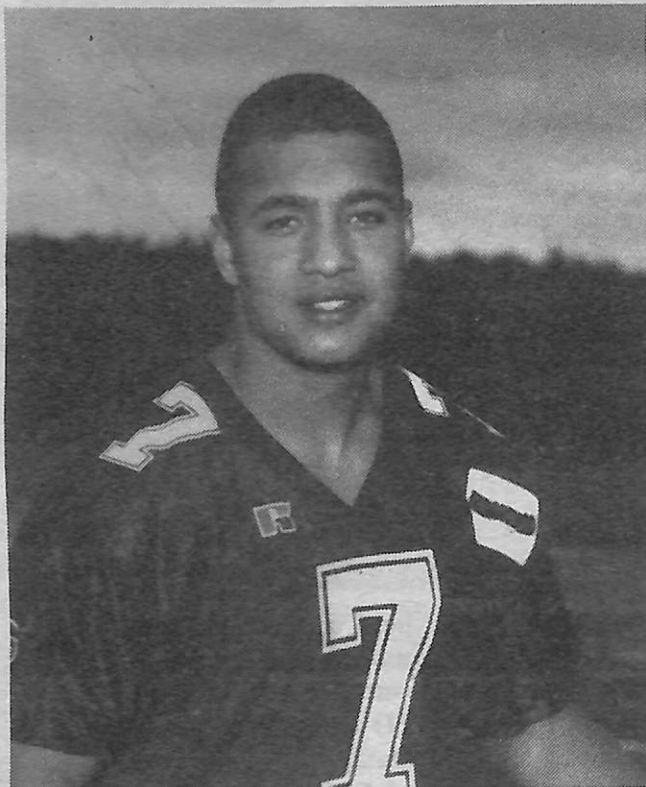
Many of us know McGeoghan's story. He was recruited by Boston University after an outstanding football season with the Brownies. BU was hot for him and he was sold. Unfortunately, no one there told him they were going to drop their football program after McGeoghan's freshman season. So, he and many others were left hanging. But, others were well aware of his talents, including UMaine, which had also sought his services out of AHS.

That's where he ended up, still on full scholarship with the opportunity to play both football and run track. While he was a High School All-American in track and All-Western Mass. in football, suddenly his gridiron career seems to be blossoming.

A Starting Wide Receiver

He has made the team this season as a starting wide receiver. McGeoghan, who is 6'3" and 200 pounds, isn't surprised. He knows he can catch a football. But, he is mildly pleased that pro scouts who show up for workouts at the school are impressed with him. "The other day, some were there and we were running 40-yard sprints. I had my best time (a 4-4) during that session. Some people are beginning to tell me I might have a chance to advance to the next level."

Track, at least for now, is on the backburner. "I'm still high-jumping and have been clearing seven feet. I also run the hundred in about 10-6," he said. "But, for now, I'm going to use my track workouts to get in shape for football."



PHIL MCGEOGHAN

McGeoghan, busy with studies and both sports, says he doesn't get home to Agawam as much as he'd like. "I came home a few times during the school year," he noted. McGeoghan does hope to get home this semester to watch his sister, Kerry, a junior, run track. "She was injured during soccer season last year and is still a little sore. I'd like to give her some support when she starts competing full-time again," he said.



THE MEMBER OF THE BAYWEST WARRIORS (pictured above) were ecstatic over their recent 2-1 victory against Amherst at the Springfield Civic Center.

Baywest Warriors Win Playoff Championship Game At Civic Center

The Baywest Warriors won their final championship game of the season against Amherst.

The first period was even at 0-0. By the second period, the Warriors were on fire. Defense was awesome, with Aaron D'amario and John Duval keeping the Amherst offense away from the Warriors' goal.

The Warriors' offense was tough with Jake Labelle and Mike Brouillette on some nice breakaways. Mat Footit and Matt Woodward had outstanding defense to keep Amherst out of the zone.

A nice assist from Mat Footit to Ryan Harlow, who had the first goal of the game, into the right-hand corner of the net gave Warriors a 1-0 lead. But, 1-0 wasn't enough for the Warriors, as An-

thony Barker came down on offense and shot the puck low in the net to give Baywest a 2-0 lead.

Josh Edwards and Nick Pandolfi had some nice breakaways to try to score, but Amherst's defense was too strong. Tim O'Brien had some nice puck-handling helping the offense.

The third period was tough, as the Amherst offense took shot after shot on goalie Tony Boido. Tony had some strong saves, only to let one goal in. With a 2-1 lead, offense and defense did their teamwork together to win the game, 2-1 and receive the well-deserved first-place trophy.

Special thanks to Coach Dave Vanasse and Ass't. Coach Steve Brouillette for a great season to bring their team to win the championship!



Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by
Jim Modzelesky,
PGA
Oak Ridge Golf Club,
Feeding Hills, MA

A New Golf Season Is Upon Us...

Welcome to the 1999 golf season. As in past golf seasons, *The Agawam Advertiser News* will be allowing me to bring to its readers a golf tip each week. For the next 25 weeks, my golf tip will consist of quick and easy stroke-saving tips that will mainly focus on the practice situations on and off the golf course.

Hopefully, these practice tips will help you (the readers) improve in this practice area to better understand the importance of practice. I believe this 1999 series of practice tips will benefit all levels of golfing abilities.

Let's all have a great and enjoyable golf season. Look for my first tip in this series next week in *The AAN*.

Once again in 1999, *The AAN* and Oak Ridge Golf Club will be co-sponsoring a Junior Golf Program. This year's program will be offered to children from age seven to 16.

More information and applications will be posted in the May and early June issues of *The AAN*.

Golf Privilege Card Available From Amer. Lung Association

Now that spring is here, area golfers are taking to the links and attempting to get their respective games up to snuff. If you are a golfer or have one in your family, why not take advantage of or tell them about the Golf Privilege Card® that's available from the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts.

The card costs only \$39.95 and entitles the holder to over \$1,400 worth of golf-related discounts this spring, summer, and fall. This statewide card has 74 golf courses, 26 of which are in Western Massachusetts, as well as 26 golf-related businesses, 11 of which are in Western Massachusetts.

For details, call the American Lung Association of Western Mass. at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA (in Mass.). Proceeds from the Golf Privilege Card® underwrite asthma education for children and adults in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire counties.

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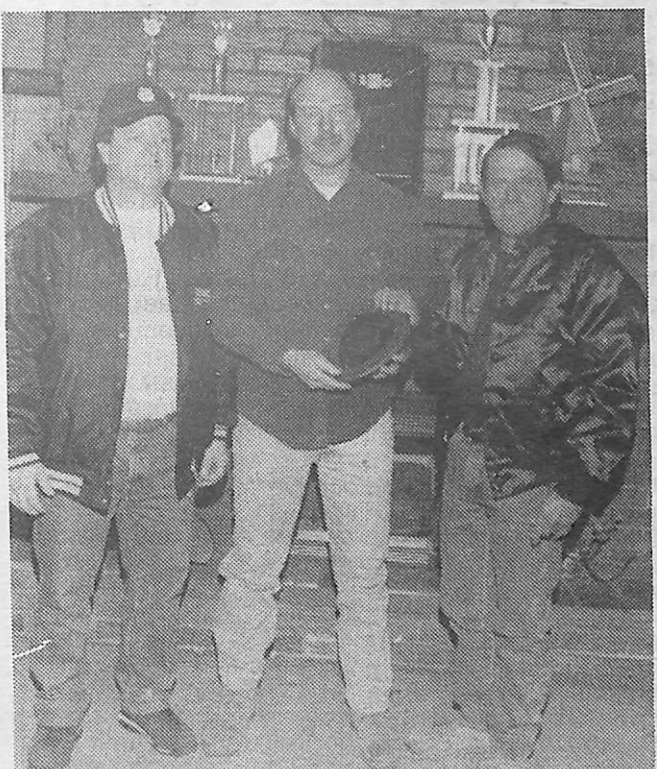
Vic Svenberg
P.G.A. Professional

Honoring Game Club Founders...



LAST MONTH, the West Springfield Fish and Game Club held a special dinner and presented plaques in honor of some members who were original founders of the club. IN TOP PHOTOS: Chris Craig, "founder" Anthony "Carpy" Carpenali, and Bob Holland; and Bob Holland, "founder" Fred Giordano, and Chris Craig. IN PHOTO BELOW: Russ Eckert, Kurt Meehan (accepting for the late Robert Meehan, Sr.), and Dana Almquist; and Janet Campbell, Bonnie Blair (accepting for the late Lorraine Blair), and Janet Trant. Advertiser News

photos by Jack Devine.



Coming To Riverside On April 18th...

Pepsi 200 Still Top Priority For Featherlite Modifieds

The Pepsi 200 at Riverside Park Speedway was rescheduled for Sunday, April 18th, at 1:00 p.m. due to inclement weather on March 28th, but the new date on the schedule remains a high priority for the 28 teams qualified for the race.

"I am definitely looking forward to the race!" says polesitter Doug French of Wall Township, New Jersey. "I think the weather will be better and that will benefit everyone. I think it's a blessing."

French qualified his Loctite/Perth Amboy Spring Chevrolet with the fourth-fastest time, and drew the pole position when the field was redrawn. French says the new date for the Pepsi 200 will improve the quality of the racing, with everyone having one more race under their belts. "It helps because everyone will get more seat time," says French.

Other notable starters in the competitive field of cards include Ted Christopher of Plainville, Connecticut, who will start the Pepsi 200 on the outside of French. Christopher will race the Pepsi 200 and then head directly to Waterford Speedbowl to compete in the Budweiser Modified Nationals.

Christopher will be driving the Whelen Engineering No. 00 Chevrolet for Joe Brady, the same car Christopher drove en route to the World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing Championship in New Smyrna, Florida, in February.

Agawam driver Ricky Miller will start fourth in the Pepsi 200, his first career start on the

Featherlite Modified Series. "I was concerned about time trials," says Miller, who actually held the fastest time for quite a while before being knocked out of the top spot by another Riverside Park regular — Bob Polverari. "But Hoosier has a great time and I think we'll be good in the race," continued Miller.

Fifty-one Featherlite Modified Series teams took part in March 27th's qualifying rounds, led by five-time Riverside Park track champion Polverari, who captured the Bud Pole Award with a lap time of 12.423 seconds (72.446 mph). The 28-car field will line up as they were set to take the green flag on March 28th, and Featherlite Modified Series teams will also be allowed a brief practice session before the race.

All tickets and pit passes purchased on March 27th or March 28th will be honored on April 18th. The pit area will open at 7:00 a.m., and the grandstands will open at 10:00 a.m.

For more information, call (413) 786-9300, ext. 3341 or visit www.riversideparkspeedway.com on the world wide web.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 24th: NASCAR Winston Racing Series, NAPA Modifieds - Twin 35's.

May 1st: NASCAR Busch North Series 150 plus Pro Stocks, Trucks, and Sportsman.

May 8th: NASCAR Winston Racing Series plus Pro 4 Modifieds.



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Connecticut Anglers Getting Ready...

Connecticut anglers are getting ready for Saturday's opening day (April 17th) for trout season. License outlets are reporting brisk sales and the tackle shops are busy.

BG's Tackle in Enfield is planning an all-nighter for last-minute procrastinators. Predictions are that there will be enough "last-minute Charlies" to make it worthwhile and provide an unusual service to the angling public.

All of the Nutmeg State's trout waters have been stocked prior to now, and the fish should be fairly well-dispersed along the various streams and rivers. Connecticut lakes and ponds should also provide some great opening-day action come daybreak this Saturday.

MAWAGA CLUB LUNKER DERBY WAS A BIG SUCCESS

The Mawaga Sportsman's Club's annual lunker derby was attended by almost 200 people on Sunday, April 11th.

A hearty breakfast starting at 7:00 a.m. was followed by the opening gun at 9:00 a.m. to start fishing. There were plenty of big trout and wide grins from both children and adults as some of the big fish were landed and weighed in.

A great time was enjoyed by all, and everyone is looking forward to next year's derby.

A list of the winners will be forthcoming in next week's column.

THAMES RIVER STRIPERS

Reports coming from the Thames River proved that you don't have to go to the wilderness to find quality fishing. Within sight of the Downtown Norwich launch ramp, some great fishing for schoolie stripers and an occasional BIG fish is happening NOW.

Use your fish finder in conjunction with the channel markers to locate the creek channel and schools of fish. The rock piles with the green channel markers are excellent structures to begin the search. Someone has already provided structure, along with defining the channel edge!

The stripers have been holding in areas next to the deep water channel. Brown or smoke-colored jigs fished on half-ounce lead heads did the trick. Another variation that worked well was a brown Slug-go impaled on the jig head, with the hook exposed.

Let the jig sink to the bottom, retrieving it with jerks on the rod. Stripers will often strike as the jig falls after having been swept forward and up with the movement of the rod. They will often hit it like a freight train going in the opposite direction, but sometimes when they are finicky, they will take it lightly.

The only hint that you may have, that a fish has picked it up, is the lack of "feel" for the weight of the jig. It also pays to watch the point where the line enters the water. Concentrate on the line, setting the hook if the jig stops falling, or if there is a twitch in the line.

Freshwater bass tackle is sufficient, and a lot of fun. Until such time that the big stripers become more numerous, the lightweight stuff will give a spectacular fight. Eight- to 10-pound line is plenty, just make sure to set the drag properly.

Good luck and good fishing ... see you on the water!

* * *

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* * *



DANA ALLEN OF AGAWAM

A Member Of The Spfld. Area Diving Team...

Dana Allen To Appear At Jr. Olympic Eastern National Competition

Dana Allen, a 13 year-old Agawam resident, will be flying out to Bloomington, Indiana, at the end of this month to compete in the Junior Olympic Eastern National Diving Competition. To qualify to compete at Nationals, a diver must place in the top six in his or her age group at one of five regional meets held at varying locations in the Eastern states.

Dana won the regional meet in the one-meter competition and came in second in the three-meter competition. This will be her first national competition.

Dana has been diving for three years with the Springfield Area Diving Team under the direction of Coach Peter Avdoulos, who was just awarded the title of National Women's Collegiate Coach of the Year.

Last month at the New England Championship Meet, Dana captured the title of three-meter champion in her age group and took second place in the one-meter competition. It is the third year in a row that she has held the three-meter title. The points she and her teammates gained with each place helped the Springfield Team place second out of 10 teams from the New England area.

If you are interested in gaining more information on this winning team, please call Pete Avdoulos at 748-3445.

Ricky Miller Opens Season With 3rd Consecutive Victory

The NASCAR Winston Racing Series returned to action at Riverside Park Speedway in grand style on Saturday, April 10th, opening the 51st season of racing at the quarter-mile oval with four exciting feature events.

The NAPA Modified division headlined the event, and Ricky Miller of Agawam continued his hot streak at Riverside Park by capturing his first modified checkers of the season.

Other drivers who recorded their first wins of the year were Tom Fearn of Agawam in the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock division, Ernie Tarca of East Granby, Connecticut in the Teddy Bear Pools Truck division, and Ed Charette of Plainville, Connecticut in the Sportsman division.

For Miller, the victory was his third consecutive win at the historic NASCAR Winston Racing Series facility. Miller closed out the 1998 season by winning the final leg of the Bud Triple Crown Series on September 5th, and the Modified portion of the Enfield Pontiac 400 on November 1st. Tom Jensen of Southington, Connecticut returned to action after taking most of the 1998 season off, and finished his first race back in the second spot behind Miller. Defending NAPA Modified champion Jimmy Broderick was third, followed by Todd Owen of Somers, Connecticut, and Rob Summers of Manchester, Connecticut.

Fellow Agawam driver Tom Fearn hopes to bring some of the luck he experienced at the Stafford Motor Speedway in 1998, where he captured the pro stock championship, to Riverside Park.

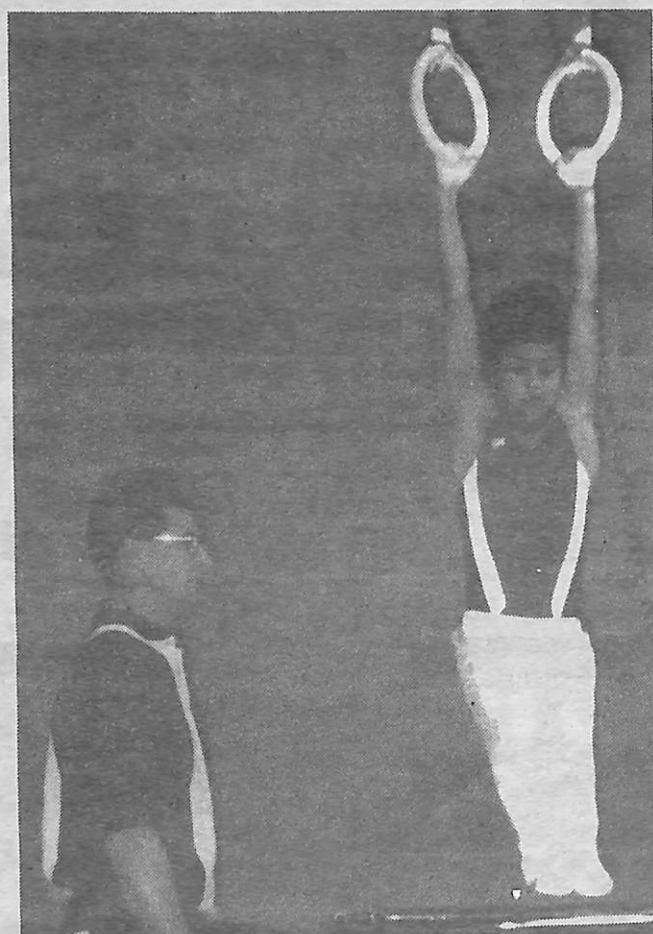
Fearn and his Matt Powers-owned team will concentrate their efforts on Riverside Park in 1999, and they began the season with a win over three-time defending Riverside Park Pro Stock Champion Eddy Carroll III of Longmeadow.

Tarca's victory was his first in the truck division, where he was winless in 1998. Tarca battled in the third and second spot before charging past defending division champion Ted Chalmers of Holyoke with seven laps remaining. Charette survived a caution-filled Sportsman feature, taking down the victory over Joe Kokoszka, Beau LeBeau, and Herb Carlon.

Riverside Park Speedway returns to action with a double header, Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, April 18th. The NASCAR Winston Racing Series, featuring the NAPA Modifieds, Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stocks, Teddy Bear Pools Trucks, Figure 8's, and the Pro 4 Modified Shootout takes place at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, and the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Series returns to Agawam on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. for the running of the Pepsi 200.

For more information, call (413) 786-9300 or visit www.riversideparkspeedway.com on the world wide web.

Best local news with us.



EDWARD WALLER on the rings, with Coach Tom Malone spotting.

Edward Waller Competes At State Gymnastics Tourney

Edward Waller, a student at Agawam Middle School, competed in the Boys Lv-6, Age 10-11, Massachusetts State Gymnastics Championship in Sterling, Massachusetts, this past weekend.

He placed eighth in the state all-around; tied for first place on the still rings with a score of 9.2; took sixth place on the vault with a 9.0; and qualified for the Northeast Regional Meet to be held on April 25th in Southington, Connecticut.

Edward competes for Thompsons Gymnastics in South Hadley and lives in Feeding Hills with his parents, Li-Ling and William, and brothers, Russell and Kevin.

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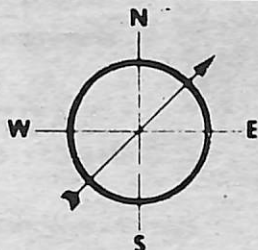
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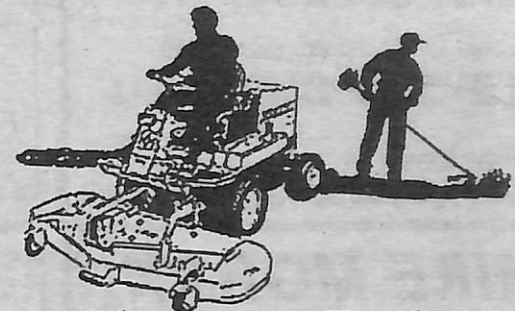
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LOCAL ELECTRICIAN - REPLACE FUSES TO CIRCUIT BREAKERS: New homes, additions, pools. Small jobs welcome. Security lighting. Free est., fully insured. All calls answered promptly. 781-4376 or 569-2925.

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CHILD CARE: Experienced teacher and child care provider has openings for all ages. Large back yard. Nutritious meals and snacks. Preschool program included. License no. 184792. Call Sue at 789-2530.

JOE RUSSO PAVING & EXCAVATING: In business for over 40 years. Fully insured. Blacktop & sealed driveways. Loam, landscaping, fill. In-ground oil tank removal. 649 Cooper St., Agawam. Phone & fax: (413) 786-0617.

CURLEY'S LAWN SERVICE: Schedule your spring cleanout today! Call for free estimates on all of your spring landscape and mowing needs. Fully insured; experienced uniformed crews. Monthly billing available for seasonal mowing customers. (413) 786-4622.

PIETRONIRO LANDSCAPING: Commercial/residential. Mowing/hedges; mulch; spring/fall cleanup. Half price — every 4th mow (new customers only). John G. Pietroniro, (413) 786-5770.

MR. HANDYMAN: One call does it all. Painting, carpentry, drywall. 10% off any job over \$100. Licensed and insured. Quality work at reasonable prices. Phone 592-1658; cellular 626-9423.

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PROFESSIONAL TURF SERVICES: Put the quality and care back into your lawn care. Locally owned and operated. For a free estimate, call 734-3696.

T.J. BARK MULCH, INC.: All natural, double ground bark mulch. Delivery available. Pick-up at 994 Western Ave., Westfield, MA. M-F, 7-5; Sun., 10-2. (413) 568-6856 or (860) 654-1975.

PAINTING: For all your interior and exterior painting needs, call 786-2946. Over 30 years' experience. Fully insured; free estimate.

BOB LONGO CONSTRUCTION: 27 years specializing in kitchens and additions. Free custom design. Fully insured, free estimates. In Agawam, 789-0758.

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CONSIGNMENT: "Forget Me Not," a women's quality fashion consignment shop, is now offering maternity clothes. Large selection — casual and dressy. We also carry size 4-24 in women's fashions. 1353 Springfield St., F.H. (next to F.H. Post Office). 786-3376.

REIDY'S LANDSCAPING: Commercial & residential. Spring clean-up; mowing; mulch; complete landscape services. Agawam, 786-8575.

CHARTIER'S GENERAL CARPENTRY: We take the worry out of building. Additions; new construction; renovations; custom decks. Lic no. 051681; fully insured. Don Chartier, owner. (413) 796-8331.

BLUE DIAMOND PAVING: Driveways built to last! Paving; regrading of stone driveways; sealcoating; repairs. 1-800-PAVING-4 (1-800-728-4644).

AGAWAM SEPTIC TANK PUMPING SERVICE: Celebrating 44 years of dedicated service. Santi DiDonato. (413) 786-2554 or 1-860-668-4301 (in Westfield).

ROSSI LANDSCAPING: Lawn mowing, sand removal, spring & fall cleanups, snow plowing, property maintenance. "Expect to be impressed." Telephone & fax: (413) 789-7245.

LOOKING FOR AN ACCOUNTANT? Call Frank A. Schoenrock, Certified Public Accountant. 18R Hartford Avenue, Granby Center, (860) 653-0734.

AMERICLEAN POWERWASH: Southwick, MA 01077. Thomas "Jeff" Gagnon, owner. Building & house washing; deck cleaning. In MA, (413) 569-9927; in CT, (860) 651-5151.

JEFF'S LAWN & LANDSCAPING: Mowing, mulch, all your landscaping needs. Fully insured. 789-7325.

SCOTT MITCHELL'S CONSTRUCTION: Back hoe, Bobcat, dump-truck. (413) 569-5313.

GREAT BROOK LUMBER COMPANY: Double ground bark mulch — \$15 yd. (plus tax). Pick up at our yard. Delivery is also available. 20 Industrial Road, Southwick (Rte. 10 & 202). Open Mon.-Sat., 7 to 3:30. (413) 569-0591.

WANTED

HELP WANTED: Brozack's Bobcat Service is looking for someone to work part-time. Must have valid MA driver's license and be able to work unsupervised Saturdays and Sundays. Call (413) 789-4876. Leave a message.

BABYSITTER NEEDED: For boys ages two and four on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and possibly four hours another day. Our home or yours. Please call Sue, 786-0247.

EARN EXTRA INCOME: \$250-plus weekly mailing discount coupons. For more information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: AAA, Dept. 2, P.O. Box 5679, Hollywood, FL 33023.

HELP WANTED: Part-time greenhouse. Experience/knowledge of plants and their care important. Apply in person at The Garden Emporium, 1265 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA.

HELP WANTED: Full-time nursery yard staff. Some experience with plants, trees, and shrubs. Apply in person at The Garden Emporium, 1265 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA.

HELP WANTED: Coffee bar — experienced. 3 to 5 p.m. daily. Apply in person at The Garden Emporium, 1265 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA.

HELP WANTED: Part-time person to solicit advertising support for Agawam senior citizen newsletter. Leads provided by Senior Center. You determine hours and amount of extra income. Perfect for retired person with car. Call Frank, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., 1-800-536-1776.

MECHANIC NEEDED: For small engines. Own tools needed. Call 860-668-0215.

WANTED: Nurse aides, home health aides, personal care aides. Homecare visits of 6 to 8 hours are available now! Excellent pay, paid vacation, no employment fee. Call Interim Healthcare today! (413) 734-6900.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT WANTED: Part-time Saturdays, Springfield, MA/Enfield, CT area. Individual with minor physical limitations needs assistance with various miscellaneous projects in the home. Light gardening, and caring for small pets as well. Help with organizing household budget and tax information. Good organizational skills, basic math skills, and personal computer skills are required. Must have a general familiarity with Microsoft Windows-Office 97 (Access, Word, and Excel). Driver's license required. Starting salary: \$7.50 per hour. Days: Normally Saturdays, but on occasion a Sunday or weekday night may be required. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but may vary some week to week. Please send resume with references to: P.O. Box 3278, Springfield, MA 01001.

FOR SALE

AGAWAM HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: Lovely 7 rm. Colonial. 3 BR, 1½ baths, attach. 2-car garage, move in condition. \$152,000. 786-0052.

HEMLOCKS & ARBOR-VITAE: 3 to 3½ ft., \$9; junipers, 2 gal., \$4. Free delivery. 786-8631.

OPEN HOUSE — SUNDAY, 2-4: 7 Grove Street, Southwick. Scenic lakeview from this completely remodeled 7 RM, 3 BR, 2 Bth home. ½ ac. fenced yard. Located on dead-end st. 1st flr. laun., office, cedar closet, 1 car attached garage, air cond., Anderson windows and Pella slider. \$122,500. 3% Fee to Agents. 569-1433.

FOR SALE: 18' x 31' above-ground pool. Includes filter and accessories. Excellent condition. Must dismantle. Best offer. Call 786-8145.

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RIDING INSTRUCTION: Learn to ride, jump, show! Equitation, dressage, jumping, training. Beginner to advanced. 100 x 200 indoor arena. Advanced licensed instructors. Show/pleasure horses & ponies for sale/lease. Summer riding programs, July 12-16 and August 9-13. END OF HUNT FARMS has a special place for you! Home, (860) 668-1656; barn, (860) 668-9990.

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BUSINESS SPACE FOR RENT: Approximately 2,000 square feet. 2nd floor. All wired for computers. Plenty of extra phone jacks. Call 786-0370.

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NEIGHBORHOOD TAG SALE: LOTS of designer name clothes, some new, low prices, toys, fish tanks, bikes, new items, misc. stuff. 9 to 3, Sat., 4/17/99, 341 Barry St., F.H.

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 Long Mileage, Quiet Ride
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